

THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XIX.—NEW SERIES, No. 695.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23, 1859.

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JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Office: 32, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

THE Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR will preside at the ANNUAL FESTIVAL of the ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, supported by the SHERIFFS of LONDON and MIDDLESEX (on the 24th March), to celebrate the 101st Anniversary of the Charity. A List of Stewards will shortly be published. Additional names will be thankfully received.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THANK YOU FOR NOTHING!

MR. WALPOLE must have the organ of hope enormously developed, if he has ever cherished the expectation of settling the Church-rate controversy on the bases laid down in his Bill. It is, perhaps, of all plans hitherto submitted to the Legislature, in principle the most objectionable, and in method the most impracticable. It revives, confirms, strengthens, or perpetuates nearly everything which enters into the essence of what has usually been regarded as the evil of Church-rates—it concedes literally nothing but individual exemption from liability in those rare cases in which men have been accustomed to submit to the "spoiling of their goods," rather than own an ecclesiastical authority of human creation. It leaves all the present machinery intact, and introduces a new motive power to work it. It makes the Church legally sure of every penny which it has been able to extort during an average of years by a majority of votes in vestry. It merely narrows the area within which injustice may do its work, and in which, consequently, the feelings which injustice invariably excites will become more intense. It converts the voluntary liberality of one generation into a fetter wherewith to bind all future generations. It is an adaptation to modern times of an ancient and exploded theory—and is equally objectionable to Churchmen and Dissenters. We cannot commend a single feature of the Bill. Its object, its provisions, its spirit, and its probable results, are alike open to condemnation.

The plan of the Government, shortly described, is as follows. Power is to be given to the owners of land, notwithstanding the mortmain laws, to charge their lands with the amount of Church-rates which those lands have paid within a period specified by the Bill—whether they be owners of fee, or are merely tenants for life. In other words, power is given by this measure to the existing race of proprietors who have the right, if they please, to oppose a Church-rate in vestry, either as unnecessary, or impolitic, or excessive, to oust their successors from this right for ever, and bind them down to the payment of a fixed annual sum, under any circumstances, in all time to come. The charges thus imposed are to vest in the incumbent and churchwardens in every parish, as a corporation for this purpose, with perpetual succession. To these rent-charges thus imposed, for Church of England objects, by present land-owners upon themselves and all who may hereafter succeed them, voluntary subscriptions and donations are invited to be added, which, at the will of the donor, may be set aside as a fund in aid of the charges for the sustentation of the Church, or, if preferred, may go towards the exoneration of his lands from the payment that is now due from them. When these rent-charges and benefactions have together reached an annual amount of income equal to the amount of the Church-rate, calculated on an average of years, then the Queen is to be empowered by an Order in Council to declare that Church-rates in that parish are for ever abolished. The effect is this—when the church in any parish (which now has to obtain from the vestry what is deemed necessary to the

repair of the fabric and the expenses of divine worship) shall have secured, by means of rent-charges and the investment of voluntary donations, a legal income equal to what it has usually obtained by rate—but an income not contingent as now upon a vote of the parishioners—then, Her Majesty in Council may abolish Church-rates. Thank you for nothing, say we.

This, however, is not the whole of the measure—although these, so far as we can see, are the only provisions the scope of which may be said, by a stretch of courtesy, to contemplate the abolition of Church-rates. In how many parishes these provisions will be effectually applied to the permanent extinction of the impost, it is impossible to foretell—but we should apprehend that they will amount in all to a very meagre minority. But in all other parishes the existing machinery will remain, subject to the following changes. With reference to all contracts to be hereafter made, the tenant or occupier of land is to be enabled to deduct from the rent due from him to his landlord any Church-rate which he may have paid in respect to the land which he occupies—but, in case he takes advantage of his liberty, the vote which he would have had in vestry will be transferred, with the pecuniary liability, to the landlord. Dissenters, however, are to be exempted from the obligation of contributing to the funds from which they derive no advantage, on subscribing a form to be taken round by the rate-collector for that purpose, declaring that they conscientiously object to the payment of Church-rates—but they who claim the benefit of exemption from that obligation disqualify themselves thereby from taking any part in vestry meetings where the rate is imposed.

We have now stated the leading outlines of this measure. A word or two upon the statistical facts upon which it is professedly founded. Mr. Walpole bases his bill upon the assumption that a legal obligation rests upon the landed property of the country to provide, by means of a rate, for the sustentation of the sacred edifice—a figment which the Braintree decision finally set aside—for how can there be a legal obligation to do what there is a legal liberty of refusing to do? The contradiction is absurd. Then again, the right honorable gentleman finds a justification of his proposals in the fact, brought out by late returns, that out of 10,206 parishes, the land-owners in 1,367 of them are all Churchmen—in 7,436 parishes, they are generally Churchmen; in 1,050 other parishes, the Church and Dissenting landowners are about equal; and in 353 remaining parishes the numbers are not stated. Now, we object to this mode of reasoning, as we shall presently show, for disposing of a great question of public policy—but especially do we object to put it into the power of an existing majority of a special class, to stamp with indelible characters the religious teaching of all coming generations. Because there happen just now to be many more owners of landed property who belong to the Established religion than dissent from it, that is not a statesmanlike reason for giving to such owners the legal power of alienating to the support of that Establishment, whatever may be hereafter thought of it, any portion of the profits of the land, for all time to come. Once more, Mr. Walpole accords exemption to Dissenters as "a matter of favour" which Churchmen may extend to them, but which they have "no right whatever to claim"—a statement which ignores the entire basis on which a National Establishment must rest, and which, if true, takes away from persons holding doctrinal and ecclesiastical views at variance with those set forth in the formularies of the Church of England, half their rights as English subjects—namely, those which authorise them as citizens to deal, on the same terms as all other citizens, with all the public institutions of the country—whether civil, military, or ecclesiastical. Lastly, Mr. Walpole makes the recent triumphs of the voluntary principle the ground of his appeal for rendering the operation of that principle unnecessary, and, indeed, impossible, for the repair

and maintenance of the Church, in all future ages. The rationale, therefore, of the measure, is fallacious throughout. It is the embodiment of a series of fundamental mistakes, every one of which is a retrogression towards the narrow religio-political views of the dark ages.

The question whether, and how far, any institution, whether secular or sacred, shall be countenanced by the authorities, or maintained by the resources, of the State, is a question of public policy, the right of every subject to deal with which, by all the constitutional means which he may possess, is entirely irrespective of his personal belief, or his denominational connexions—and any legislation which proceeds upon the ground that a national institution can only be equitably dealt with, managed, and controlled, by those of Her Majesty's subjects who concur in its scope and its machinery, and not with equal freedom by those who object to both, is fundamentally unjust and tyrannical. No institution in this country, save and except the Established Church, has been ever considered to be the property of one class of subjects more than another. Surely, it matters nothing that on account of our personal views we choose to associate ourselves with extraneous and voluntary religious bodies, and thus forego some of the supposed advantages of the State-adopted institution. We have still the same claim and right, as subjects, to take our part in every legislative arrangement made respecting it, because that claim and right rest, not upon our individual views, but upon the fact that we are members of the State, and that everything which the State does concerns us as well as others. Taking our stand upon this unquestionable right, we object to the employment of the common resources of the State to ecclesiastical purposes. We object to it, not merely nor even chiefly because it is unfair to ourselves, but because we believe it to be detrimental both to the political and the religious interests of the country. We object, especially, to Church-rates, as the worst form in which what we regard as an evil principle can be embodied. On this ground—one of public policy—we claim to have them abolished. The question with us, is not one between Churchmen as such, and Dissenters as such—it is one which concerns the well-being of the whole country, and the spread of religion in the country—and we take leave so to treat it. The real question we ask to be disposed of is the policy of taxation for religious purposes. We are opposed to that policy, and not merely to the particular manner in which it is carried out, or to its incidence upon this or that particular class of the community. We ask the Legislature to give effect to our wishes—and we are offered a measure which creates a distinction, in regard to the rights of citizenship, between us and our fellow subjects, which contains the most elaborate contrivances for removing one of the institutions of the State beyond the local control of those who may object to its nature and relations, and which employs the agency of the voluntary principle to stifle the voluntary principle in all future ages. We will have no such distinction—we will cede no such rights—we will not allow the voluntary principle to be thus, by a relaxation of a most wise provision of law, played off against itself. Better far to remain as we are until in every parish the majority of parishioners have got rid of the exaction for themselves. This wooden horse is full of armed men—if we admit it within the city, ruin of our cause will follow close upon our infatuation.

We have abstained from criticising the practical, or, more correctly speaking, the impracticable details of this measure. We reserve them for a future occasion, if necessary. We content ourselves, at present, with protesting against the object and general drift of the measure, which, while it eases our fetters here and there, rivets, and is designed to rivet, them more strongly for ever. After the full, decided, and repeated expression of the nation's will in this matter, through the House of Commons, we look upon

these proposals as cool, even to the pitch of effrontery. They are elaborate coverings intended to wrap up a so-called concession to public opinion—and when wrapper after wrapper has been removed, we find that they contain—*nothing*. There can be no doubt as to what will be the fate of such a Bill as this. Our representatives will very soon learn the views which their constituents take of it. In substance, we feel fully satisfied, the cry which will come up from all quarters will be, "Thank you for nothing."

THE ENDOWED SCHOOLS QUESTION.

Mr. Dillwyn's bill to amend the law respecting grammar schools was withdrawn on Thursday last by the advice of a high legal authority, with a view better to adapt its clauses to the object in view. On the same day the hon. gentleman gave notice for next Thursday (tomorrow) of a bill for better regulating grammar schools, which we understand is substantially the same as that withdrawn, and is likely to command the assent of the whole Liberal party. From the report given below it will be seen that the question excites great interest throughout the country, and there is reason to hope that the out-door feeling has produced a due impression upon both branches of the Legislature.

In the House of Lords on Thursday Lord Cranworth presented a petition from Newbury in favour of Dissenters holding the trusteeship of public schools. Lord Stanley of Alderley presented petitions to the same effect from Stockport, Linton, Birmingham, and other places. Lord Brougham presented a similar petition from a Protestant congregation at Hanley, in the Potteries, and the noble lord expressed a hope that, as the attention of the Government had been fully called to this subject, they would without delay bring in a bill to remedy the evil complained of.

On Friday the Duke of Norfolk presented a petition from Horsham in favour of Dissenters being entitled to act as trustees for public schools. Lord Campbell presented a petition to the same effect from several Dissenting congregations in Lincolnshire. He thought it reasonable and proper that all ecclesiastical establishments should be managed by members of the Established Church, but with regard to public schools the trustees ought to be chosen from the whole community.

In the Commons the petitions to the same effect have been very numerous. The following is a list of some of the places which have sent up petitions:—by Mr. Wykeham Martin, from Protestant Dissenters meeting in King-street Chapel, Maidstone; by Mr. Turner, from Protestant Dissenters of Cross-street Chapel, Manchester; by Mr. Bass, from the members of the congregation of Wesleyan Reformers of Becket-street, Derby; also from the Rev. W. Griffith, of Derby; by Captain Hamilton, from the United Presbyterian congregation of Blackwell Chapel in Hamilton; by Mr. Paget, from the congregations worshipping in Independent Chapel, St. James'-street, and High Pavement Chapel, Nottingham; by Mr. Kershaw, from the Protestant Dissenting Tabernacle, Hillgate, Stockport; by Sir Arthur Elton, from Baptist, Independent, and Primitive Methodist Dissenters of Bath; by Mr. Bramston, from Protestant Dissenters, Bethel Chapel, Woodham Ferris, Essex; by Mr. Thornley, from Protestant Dissenters of Renshaw-street, Chapel, Liverpool, and from Dissenters of Lutton and Fleet, in the county of Lincoln; by Mr. Akroyd, from the congregation of Ramsden-street Chapel, Huddersfield; by Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, from Congregational Dissenters at Deal; by Mr. White, from the congregation of Baltic-street Chapel, Plymouth; by General Thompson, from Protestant Dissenters of Little Horton, Bradford; by Mr. Hadfield, from Protestant Dissenters, Barnsley, Yorkshire, and Moy, county of Tyrone, Ireland; by Mr. Whitmore, from the Protestant Dissenters of Bridgnorth; by Mr. Adeane, from the congregation of Eden Chapel, Cambridge; by Mr. Locke, from Methodist, Baptist, and Unitarian congregations of Honiton; by Mr. H. Berkeley, from the congregation of Frenchay Chapel, Gloucestershire; by Mr. H. Ingram, from the congregation of Salem Chapel, Boston; by Mr. Portman, from Union Chapel, Long-street, Sherborne, Dorset; by Mr. Kinglake, from the ministers and deacons of Sion Chapel, Bridgwater; by Sir J. S. Trelawny, from Independent Protestant Dissenters of Tavistock; by Mr. Selater-Booth, from the Protestant Dissenters of Shipton in Hampshire; by Sir R. Peel, from the ministers and office-bearers of Cole-hill Unitarian Chapel, Tamworth; by Mr. Gore Langton, from Bower Hinton, in the parish of Martock, and from Isle Abbots, Somersetshire; by Mr. J. L. Ricardo, from the congregation of Hope Chapel, Hanley, Staffordshire; also, from the Tabernacle Chapel, Hanley; by Mr. Bazley, from the Protestant Dissenting congregation of Platt Chapel, near Manchester; by Colonel Kingscote, from the congregation of Baptists at Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire; by Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, from a congregation of Protestant Dissenters assembled in Bushey Chapel, Bushey, Herts; by Mr. J. G. Ewart, from the congregation of Protestant Dissenters of Trinity Chapel, Wavertree; by Mr. C. W. Grenfell, from the congregation of Protestant Dissenters of Victoria Chapel, Windsor; by Mr. Tite, from the inhabitants of Bath at a public meeting; from the congregation of Henry-street Chapel; from the congregation meeting in the Unitarian Chapel in Trim-street;

from the congregation of the Baptists, Providence Chapel; by Mr. K. D. Hodgson, from the Unitarian congregation of Bridport; also from the Baptist congregation of Bridport; and by Mr. T. A. Mitchell, from the Independents, Wesleyans, and Quakers—all of Bridport; by Mr. Dodson, from the congregation of Mount-street Chapel, Battle, Sussex; by Mr. Ayton, from congregation of Worship-street; by Mr. Packer, from Hayfield, in the county of Derby, in favour of Church-rates; from congregation of Protestant Dissenters at Ashby-de-la-Zouch; by Mr. Diggs, from the congregation of Protestant Dissenters assembled in Ebenezer Chapel, St. Peter's-lane; by Captain Hamilton, from the Presbyterian congregation of Chapel-street, Hamilton; by Mr. Bentinck, from the congregation of Protestant Dissenters of Beaminster, Northamptonshire; by Mr. Byng, from Protestant Dissenters at Harefield, in Middlesex; by Mr. Paget, in favour of Endowed Schools' Bill, from congregations of General Baptists Chapel, Kerby Woodhouse; Independent, Mansfield; Congregational, East Retford; Independent, Moor-green; Independent, Ranskill; Independent, Hyson-green; General Baptist, Arnold; General Baptist, Mansfield; Independent, Keyworth; Independent, Sneinton; Baptist, New Lenton; Baptist, Southwell; General Baptist, Old Basford; General Baptist, Hucknall Torkard; Independent, Selston; inhabitants of Beeston, all in the county of Nottingham; and from General Baptist, Stoney-street; Baptist, Broad-street; Primitive Methodist and Baptist, George-street; Scotch Baptist, Park-street; Baptist, Derby-road; Independent, Castle-gate; United Methodist Free Church; Independent, Fletcher-gate; Methodist, New Connexion, all in Nottingham; by Mr. G. Onslow, from the congregation of Protestant Dissenters assembled in Meadow Chapel, Godalming; by Mr. R. J. Bagshaw, from the ministers and congregations of Independent and Baptist Chapels at Harwich; by Mr. Vansittart, from Newbury; by General Codrington, from Protestant Dissenters at Woolwich; by Mr. Kendall, from the Protestant Dissenters of the Congregational Chapel at Falmouth, county of Cornwall; by Sir J. Duke (6), from Dissenting congregations in the country; by Mr. Locke, from the Mayor and Corporation of Honiton; by Mr. Baxter, from the congregation of Protestant Dissenters assembled in Castle-street Chapel, Dundee; by Mr. Paget, from congregation of Friar-lane Chapel, Nottingham; by Sir J. Duke, from Holywell; by Mr. J. C. Ewart, from Birkenhead, and from the Congregational Chapel of Huyton, Lancashire; by Mr. Nicoll, from Frome; by Mr. W. J. Fox, from Stroud and Broughton; by Mr. H. A. Bruce, from Merthyr Tydfil and Hirwain, Glamorganshire; by Mr. Wykeham Martin, from Tenterden; by Captain Pryse, from Pemsam, Llechryd and Tyrrhos Chapels, county of Cardigan; by Mr. Tite, from Argyle-street Chapel, Bath, and Somerset-street Chapel; and by Mr. Morris, from Carmarthen.

MEETINGS OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

MANCHESTER.—An able and interesting address, explanatory of the Parliamentary operations and plans of the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control, was delivered on the 15th February, by Mr. J. Carvell Williams, of London, in Cavendish-street Chapel Schoolroom. James Sidebottom, Esq., presided. Mr. Williams sketched, in a lucid manner, the progress which had been made in the cause of religious liberty during the past seven years. On the motion of the Rev. S. Clarkson, seconded by the Rev. Mr. Watts, a resolution approving of the operations of the society, and pledging the meeting to its support, was carried unanimously. Dr. McKerrow moved the adoption of a petition to Parliament in favour of the Endowed Schools Bill. In the course of his remarks the rev. doctor referred to the flagrant abuse of trust which had taken place in respect to the Blind Asylum Chapel, recently converted into the "St. Thomas's District Church," and mentioned that an appeal had been made to the Charity Commissioners to institute an inquiry forthwith into the matter. The motion was seconded by C. Wardley, Esq., and carried. The chairman, in returning thanks for a vote of thanks accorded to him, on the motion of the Rev. Joseph Parker, mentioned that Sir James Watts had promised a contribution to the funds of the society of 20l. for three years, and he (the chairman) should do the same.—*Manchester Examiner*.

TAMWORTH.—Nearly 150 persons being in daily expectation of being summoned for a Church-rate, no little excitement was created in this town on the 18th inst., by a visit of J. Carvell Williams, Esq., of London. The town-hall was lent for the occasion, and Mr. Williams delivered a very able and forcible lecture on "The Church-rate question," which is the title of a pamphlet recently published by the vicar of the town, and which pamphlet served as a good text-book. The lecture was listened to with intense interest, and was frequently applauded. The arguments and facts advanced carried conviction to the mind of the audience, and at the close the meeting pledged itself to continued earnest opposition to the unjust exaction, until it be abolished. Before the motion was put, Mr. Knight, a lawyer, rose to move an amendment, but, in his anxiety to catechise the lecturer and browbeat the audience, he lost his temper and forgot his amendment. The motion, on being put to the meeting, was carried by at least 250 to 9! Another legal gentleman, who was present, replying to Mr. Knight, said it would have been better if he had grappled with the arguments, facts, and figures of the lecturer, instead of calling them fallacies and clap-trap. Mr. Hammell, a magistrate, who was present, whilst dissenting from

the lecturer, expressed his admiration of the spirit and ability he had displayed. Votes of thanks to Mr. W., the chairman, and the Mayor, closed the meeting—a meeting which is quite an epoch in the history of Tamworth.—*From a Correspondent*.

PERTH.—A meeting was held in the Guildhall on the evening of the 17th February, John Pullar, Esq., in the chair. The Rev. Robert Cameron, of the North U.P. Church, opened by prayer. After Mr. Oulton had concluded, a vote of thanks to him, and of continued confidence in the society, was moved by the Rev. John Pillans (Independent), seconded by the Rev. T. Miller, of the South U.P. Church, and carried unanimously.

LLANFYLLIN.—At a meeting held in the Vestry-room of our parish church on Feb. 17th, a proposal of a penny rate was negatived, and the following amendment passed unanimously:—"That the vestry requests the churchwardens to apply to the parishioners for subscriptions to meet the expenses of the year, and adjourn for six months, to enable them to do so." The pro-rate party seeing the opponents so numerously mustered, lost courage, did not press the demand, and gave way to the more reasonable forgoing amendment. The question was represented on the one hand by the vicar, Messrs. Reel and Biby; and on the other by Messrs. E. Evans, C. R. Jones, and J. Jones. The latter conducted their part well, and delivered telling speeches. We are greatly indebted too to the Liberation Society; and feel thankful to its officials for their prompt attention to our application for practical directions.—*From a Correspondent*.

MILITARY HONOURS TO RELIGIOUS PROCESSIONS.

The following is a copy of the general circular of the late Lord Hill, alluded to by Sir E. B. Lytton, as the order which now regulates the conduct of the military in all our Roman Catholic colonies:—

Horse Guards, June 26, 1837.

It having been deemed expedient to lay down fixed and specific rules with regard to the extent to which her Majesty's land forces shall, for the future, pay military honours to religious processions in Catholic countries in which any portion of the said forces shall happen to be serving, I have it in command to direct your special attention to the following, and to express Lord Hill's desire that you cause the same to be strictly observed by the troops serving under your orders, viz.:

Troops are not to turn out for, move with, or take any active part in any religious procession or ceremonial. All sentries are, however, to salute the procession as it passes their posts. All guards and other bodies of troops that happen to be under arms in the direct line of the procession are to salute it as it passes them, but are not to remain under arms for the procession after it has passed them, nor to await its return.

The usual salutes of cannon from forts or batteries for Catholic processions may be continued; but on these occasions a simple order only for firing the salute on the day and hour specified is to be given, without specifying the occasion for which it is to be fired.

Lord Hill anxiously hopes and trusts that, notwithstanding the foregoing instructions, every officer, non-commissioned officer, and soldier, under your command, will (as heretofore) continue to carry himself with the utmost forbearance and respect towards the ministers and other members of the Catholic religion, as well as towards their religious institutions, bearing constantly in mind that the present regulation is made to meet the conscientious scruples of individuals, without in the remotest degree encouraging or contemplating a diminution of that respectful consideration with which the British army has ever been enjoined to regard the religious feelings, habits, and even prejudices of every foreign country in which it has been required to serve.

I have, &c.,

JOHN MACDONALD, A. G.

Addressed to General Officers Commanding at the Mediterranean, Mauritius, and Canada.

The following is No. 16 in the Standing Orders for the Malta Garrison:—

For Guards in the island of Malta, No. 16:—All guards to turn out to the Bishop of Malta, and pay him the honours due to a Brigadier-General. Sentries to present arms, and to carry arms as the Host passes. This was probably issued subsequent to the above, and directly contravenes its provisions.

CHURCH-RATES AT CAYTHORPE.—An attempt to impose a rate at Caythorpe, Notts, has signally failed. The village having been well placarded with bills the vestry was numerously attended by the opponents of the rate; and, in the absence of the vicar, one of their number, Mr. B. F. Faulkes, took the chair. One of the churchwardens having proposed a rate of fivepence in the pound, Mr. T. Faulkes moved "That this vestry declines to make any rate, and requests the churchwardens to propose some other mode of obtaining the requisite funds." On this amendment being put to the vestry it was affirmed by a large majority, and the churchwardens, feeling probably that their case was a hopeless one, did not demand a poll. One circumstance which no doubt contributed to this result was, that the vote, if carried, would have been illegal, many retrospective items being included in the estimate.

THE NEW DEAN OF CHICHESTER.—We are informed that the Rev. Dr. Hook, Vicar of Leeds, has had the deanery of Chichester offered to him by the Government, and has accepted the offer.—*Times*.

MISSION OF SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE.—Sir Moses Montefiore, having accepted the mission entrusted to him by the board of deputies on behalf of the boy Mortara, abducted from his parents and forcibly detained by the Papal government, will set out on Wednesday next, on his journey to Italy. He is the bearer of a memorial from the English Jews to the Pope, soliciting the restoration of the child to

his desolate parents. The worthy baronet is accompanied by Lady Montefiore, Mr. G. Karsheedt, of New Orleans, and Dr. Hodgkin. Prayers for the success of his mission were offered up in all metropolitan synagogues.—*Jewish Chronicle*.

THE WESLEYANS AND THE CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT.—The Rev. J. M. Joll, of Spalding, in a letter to the *Watchman*, complains of the treatment experienced by Mr. Job Wilson, a class leader at Gedney-hill. This individual had submissively allowed four of his children who had died successively, to be buried in the churchyard without any religious service, notwithstanding they "had been baptized by Wesleyan ministers." Having lost a fifth child, Mr. Joll required the Rev. Thomas Clark, the incumbent, (on the authority of a recent legal decision) to inter the child with due form. Mr. Clark, not recognising the fact that the child having "been baptized by a Wesleyan minister" was of any importance, persisted in regarding it as "unbaptized," and refused to inter it without the Bishop's order. The Bishop of Lincoln was appealed to, and at once directed the interment, and the incumbent ultimately submitted.

Religious Intelligence.

The Rev. C. H. SPURGEON has, it is said, changed his purpose, and will not visit America at present, having found reason to doubt whether the invitation he had received was a sufficient one.

HUNDON, SUFFOLK.—The Rev. John Ross visited this village on Tuesday last, (at the request of the friends connected with the chapel,) for the purpose of delivering an address on "Christian Beneficence," and particularly on the "Weekly Offering" system. On which occasion between 300 and 400 persons were present, and listened with the greatest attention to his admirable address.

SPECIAL FUND FOR INDIA.—Rev. F. Trestrail, Secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society, preached in Charles-street Chapel, on Sunday morning last, and at Belvoir-street in the evening, and brought before his hearers the claims of India. We are glad to find that the result of his canvass has realised the sum of 320*l*. The object of the fund is to send ten additional missionaries to that important sphere of labour.—*Leicester Mercury*.

OPENING OF A NEW CHAPEL AT CHELMSFORD.—This new Independent Chapel, which, in tasteful architecture and enlarged convenience, has been raised by the liberality of the Nonconformist body on the site of the old building, was opened for public worship on Tuesday last; and the occasion drew together a large congregation of the leading Dissenters of the county. It has been built in the decorated style of Gothic architecture. The interior is 67 feet long by 38 feet 6 inches wide; and there are galleries over the entrance end and along both sides, seats being thus obtained for 920 persons—400 more than in the old chapel.

BARNET, N.—TESTIMONIAL TO A MINISTER.—The Rev. J. Chisman Beadle, pastor of the Congregational Chapel, in Wood-street, Barnet, having been compelled through ill health to resign his appointment, after a successful ministry of nearly six years, has just been presented with a testimonial as an evidence of affectionate and grateful recognition of the value of his services. The testimonial consists of a time-piece, a moderator lamp, and a purse of money, &c. The feeling of sincere respect and esteem that has prompted this tribute, and the exertions which have earned it, reflect equal honour on the givers and the recipient.—*From the Barnet Gazette*.

HORTON COLLEGE, BRADFORD.—The annual entertainment given by the students of this college to the students of Aire-dale College, took place on Friday evening, the 18th inst. Tea and coffee were served at half-past five o'clock, and desert at half-past seven, after which interesting addresses were delivered by the two tutors present, the Revs. J. G. Green, B.A., and C. Daniell; also by two of the town ministers, the Revs. J. P. Chown and H. J. Betts. Mr. Dick (formerly a student at Aire-dale College), who is shortly to leave England for Benares, gave a few parting words of exhortation. During the evening short addresses were given by the students of the two institutions, chiefly bearing on the topic—"Ministers and Amusements."

OXFORD.—SPECIAL SERVICES FOR THE WORKING CLASSES.—On Sunday afternoon week was witnessed one of the largest congregations ever assembled in the Oxford Town Hall for a religious purpose. The Hall will hold from 1,200 to 1,500 people, and hundreds went away unable to gain admission. The opening service was conducted by the Rev. David Martin, of the Congregational Chapel, George-street, and nothing could exceed the decorum and fixed attention manifested throughout. The bulk of the hearers were literally working men, with their wives and families, and not a few of that class who seldom enter a place of worship. It is intended to follow up these services so happily begun, at least during the present month.

UNION CHAPEL, LUTON-BEDS.—The annual tea-meeting of the church and congregation assembling in Union Chapel, was held on Friday last, the 15th inst. The festival was attended by an overwhelming crowd of guests. The school-rooms in which tea was served had the appearance of a bowery arcade, from the profusion of laurel wherewith the walls and beams and pillars were adorned. Flowers and banners were interspersed among the greenery. Owing to the thronged and heated state of the rooms the company adjourned after tea to the chapel, where a most interesting service was held.

The Rev. J. Makepeace, minister of the chapel, presided. After singing, the Rev. M. Wake, of Markyate-street, offered prayer. The Rev. D. Gould, of Dunstable, spoke effectively on the subject of popular amusements, and gave good counsel as to what principles should guide all in the matter of recreations. The Rev. W. Payne, of Chesham, spoke with much emphasis on the needs of the church in the present day. The Rev. C. Vince, of Birmingham, delivered a most humorous and excellent speech on a variety of interesting topics. Concluding addresses were given by Revs. J. Hands and P. H. Comford. From the financial report it appeared that the debt on the chapel had been considerably reduced during the year.

TRURO.—The anniversary services of the Baptist Chapel, River-street, Truro, commenced on the 13th inst. On the Sunday sermons were preached in the morning and evening by the Rev. E. H. Tuckett, of Exeter (formerly pastor of the church); in the afternoon, by the Rev. E. Dennett, the present pastor. On Monday there was a tea-meeting in the school-room, after which a public meeting was held in the chapel, when addresses were delivered by the Revs. T. Rider (New Connexion), T. B. Hart, of Tregony (Independent), E. H. Tuckett, J. Walcott, of Falmouth, R. Panks (Independent), and E. Dennett. W. H. Bond, Esq., occupied the chair. On Tuesday evening a comprehensive and instructive lecture was delivered by the Rev. E. H. Tuckett, on "The Rise and Progress of Christian Missions." Collections on behalf of the debt on the chapel were made after each of the services, all of which were numerously attended.

SPECIAL AFTERNOON SERVICES.—In consequence of the great number of persons assembling every Sunday evening at St. James's Hall, who are unable to obtain admission, the committee for conducting those special services determined to open the Hall on Sunday afternoons in the hope, especially, of securing the attendance of that class of working men and their families who are in the habit, too often, of spending this portion of their leisure time in idleness or dissipation. The experiment, which was commenced on Sunday last, was remarkably successful. Long before three o'clock the hall was filled, and the congregation unquestionably consisted of working men. The sermon by the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., minister of Surrey Chapel, from the words, "The poor have the Gospel preached to them" (Matt. ix. 5), was eminently practical, and was succeeded by a prayer meeting, in which only working men were engaged. The evening service was conducted by the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, B.A., who preached from Luke xv. 10 to a very crowded congregation.

NORWICH OLD MEETING.—JUVENILE MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The anniversary of the above society was held in the Old Meeting School-rooms, on Wednesday, the 16th inst. At five o'clock nearly 300 friends sat down to tea, which number was so greatly increased by seven o'clock, when the public meeting commenced, that even standing room could not be found, and many were obliged to retire, not being able to gain admittance. After singing, prayer was offered by the pastor, the Rev. J. Hallett, who presided, and introduced the business of the meeting. A brief, but deeply interesting report was read by the secretary, Mr. J. Hancock, to which was appended a list of the young friends who had obtained subscriptions amounting to the sum of 26*l*. 14*s*. during the past year, being more than double that raised in the preceding year. Very admirable addresses were delivered by the Revs. A. Reed, B.A., London, A. Bourne, B.A., Lowestoft, I. Alexander, and F. S. Turner, B.A., of Princes-street Chapel, and H. Bourne, Esq., London, who for many years resided in the West Indies. Messrs. Hancock and Shields thanked their pastor and the friends for the interest they had taken in the meeting, and urged upon their companions in labour some very practical considerations.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE REV. G. W. CONDER'S RESIGNATION.—We learn with considerable pleasure that the Rev. G. W. Conder has withdrawn his resignation of the pastorate of Belgrave Chapel, in compliance with the request of the church and congregation, and we are sure the announcement will be received with general satisfaction by all with whom the rev. gentleman has come in contact, whether in his private or public character. The fact was made known to the church at a general meeting of the congregation on Thursday night, by a letter from Mr. Conder, which expresses the hope that he shall be able to resume, in deed as well as fact, his pastoral duties with new vigour, at no long distance of time. The disease in his throat, he says, has increased in severity since he ceased to preach, and cannot begin to heal without the influences of genial climate along with rest. He proposes therefore to leave England, as soon as circumstances permit, for a few months' residence in a warmer climate, and knowing his physical inability to speak in public, he shall not attempt to preach to his congregation before his departure. He concludes by asking for their prayers. After the letter had been read, a resolution was adopted in which the congregation expressed their delight at the withdrawal of Mr. Conder's resignation. They regretted to learn that his throat was worse, but hoped that a residence in a warmer climate would, with the Divine blessing, effect an entire cure. They also expressed the earnest hope that the cause of Christ in the church would not languish during their pastor's absence.—*Leeds Mercury*.

LEICESTER.—LONDON-ROAD CHAPEL.—On Monday week upwards of 500 members of the congregation took tea together in the schoolroom, which was twice

filled. After tea Mr. John Bennett was called to the chair, and he having appropriately stated the purposes of the assembly, requested Mr. T. O. Beale to propose and Mr. T. Nunneley, jun., to second a resolution, conveying a very kind assurance of regard to the minister and deacons, and proposing that, as the best practical evidence of sincerity, an effort should be made to reduce the debt on the building by 1,000*l*., to be paid into the treasurer's hand not later than next new year's day. The resolution having been enthusiastically adopted, slips of paper were handed round, and contributions were thus promised, in sums varying from half-a-crown to 100*l*., amounting to upwards of 500*l*. Rev. R. W. McAll, in acknowledging the resolution, expressed warm attachment to the people of his charge, and mentioned the fact, that in every department of Christian effort they had enjoyed, since the origin of the congregation a year and a-half ago, abundant tokens of prosperity. He made special reference to the numbers of the congregation not previously in attendance at any place of worship, and to the unbroken harmony and zealous co-operation which had prevailed. In the course of his remarks he alluded to the necessity of additional accommodation for the Sunday-school; and the consequence was a unanimous vote in favour of erecting, without delay, a large upper schoolroom. It was also determined to hold a bazaar or fancy sale in furtherance of the general effort. The meeting was subsequently addressed by Messrs. Swain, Nunneley, Latchmore, and Rodhouse, deacons of the church, and by other gentlemen. The mode of sustaining the entire current expenditure by the "weekly offering" (i.e., by contributions in closed boxes) was spoken of with warmest approval, and as having been, during the past year, entirely successful. The statement of the sums raised by the congregation, for various purposes during the same period, was presented, from which it appeared, that including the bazaar and the donations to the building fund, they had exceeded 2,200*l*.

WEIGH-HOUSE CHAPEL.—DARBY-STREET MISSION. The annual meeting of the members and friends of this institution was held in the large room behind the chapel, on Tuesday se'night, Mr. Samuel Morley in the chair. The Secretary read a report showing, that while the educational department of the mission continued to prosper there was room for improvement in the department of home mission work. The Chairman said he felt that, just in proportion as they realised individual effort and personal responsibility, would they succeed in making inroads on the territory of ungodliness; and he did most earnestly hope that in carrying on the present mission they would keep that principle in mind. He was glad that Mr. Wilson was now among them, and that he felt a deep interest in the present mission. Even the Bishop of London had not been above taking a lesson out of the book of this devoted Nonconformist; and without abating in any degree his love for his own principles of Nonconformity and Congregationalism, he (Mr. Morley) gladly hailed the labours of such a bishop as a blessing to London. (Applause.) He was realising practically, what every bishop of every church ought to realise, that Christianity was an aggressive system of truth; and he had no hesitation in saying that, in the case of their own bishop, nothing would really delight his heart more on his return from Australia, than to find their Darby-street Mission revived and prosperous, and every one doing his utmost to reclaim that moral waste. (Applause.) Dr. Cooke moved the adoption of the report, and Mr. Barton seconded the motion, which was cordially passed. The Rev. J. H. Wilson moved a resolution expressive of sympathy with the objects of the mission, and an earnest desire to support and sustain them.

He had visited the district, and met with many of the people; had been in the schools, and addressed all their meetings, and he felt deeply impressed with the conviction that something more must be done than had yet been attempted before that moral waste could be reclaimed. The schools were really prosperous and useful, but unless the visitation of the district were speedily undertaken, and systematic efforts made to get hold of the parents as well as the children, the mission would languish and decay. . . . A more suitable field for home mission effort than Darby-street and Rosemary-lane he did not know; and he felt persuaded that as there was now every prospect of their esteemed pastor's health being restored, they could not erect a more appropriate memorial of their thankfulness to God for this blessing, than so to work this mission that it would come to be a prosperous and permanent institution. He was ready to take his full share of the work, and if they would now concentrate effort on one manageable spot, enlarging the field of operations as their means of reclaiming were multiplied; if they would appoint a ladies' committee, and place under its charge a female missionary; if the lady visitors would themselves select some ten families each, and confine their labours to these families; if tracts and Bibles were sold, and payment taken in pence; if the visited were invited to take tea in the schoolroom with the visitor, and afterwards suitably addressed; if cottage prayer-meetings were opened and public lectures for the working men on temperance and other subjects delivered; if all this were prayerfully and perseveringly sustained, in a few years Rosemary-lane, instead of being a moral desert, would become what its name implies, "The garden of the Lord." (Applause.)

Mr. Wilson then stated a number of facts of a most encouraging nature, connected with aggressive efforts recently carried out by several of the Congregational and Baptist Churches of London, and stated that when the Bishop of London had himself gone and opened a room for the poorer classes, where they might be recruited for the service of God at head-quarters, and when the invitations to attend were signed "affectionately, your friend and bishop,"

these proposals as cool, even to the pitch of effrontery. They are elaborate coverings intended to wrap up a so-called concession to public opinion—and when wrapper after wrapper has been removed, we find that they contain—*nothing*. There can be no doubt as to what will be the fate of such a Bill as this. Our representatives will very soon learn the views which their constituents take of it. In substance, we feel fully satisfied, the cry which will come up from all quarters will be, “*Thank you for nothing.*”

THE ENDOWED SCHOOLS QUESTION.

Mr. Dillwyn's bill to amend the law respecting grammar schools was withdrawn on Thursday last by the advice of a high legal authority, with a view better to adapt its clauses to the object in view. On the same day the hon. gentleman gave notice for next Thursday (tomorrow) of a bill for better regulating grammar schools, which we understand is substantially the same as that withdrawn, and is likely to command the assent of the whole Liberal party. From the report given below it will be seen that the question excites great interest throughout the country, and there is reason to hope that the out-door feeling has produced a due impression upon both branches of the Legislature.

In the House of Lords on Thursday Lord Cranworth presented a petition from Newbury in favour of Dissenters holding the trusteeship of public schools. Lord Stanley of Alderley presented petitions to the same effect from Stockport, Linton, Birmingham, and other places. Lord Brougham presented a similar petition from a Protestant congregation at Hanley, in the Potteries, and the noble lord expressed a hope that, as the attention of the Government had been fully called to this subject, they would without delay bring in a bill to remedy the evil complained of.

On Friday the Duke of Norfolk presented a petition from Horsham in favour of Dissenters being entitled to act as trustees for public schools. Lord Campbell presented a petition to the same effect from several Dissenting congregations in Lincolnshire. He thought it reasonable and proper that all ecclesiastical establishments should be managed by members of the Established Church, but with regard to public schools the trustees ought to be chosen from the whole community.

In the Commons the petitions to the same effect have been very numerous. The following is a list of some of the places which have sent up petitions:—by Mr. Wykeham Martin, from Protestant Dissenters meeting in King-street Chapel, Maidstone; by Mr. Turner, from Protestant Dissenters of Cross-street Chapel, Manchester; by Mr. Bass, from the members of the congregation of Wesleyan Reformers of Becket-street, Derby; also from the Rev. W. Griffith, of Derby; by Captain Hamilton, from the United Presbyterian congregation of Blackwell Chapel in Hamilton; by Mr. Paget, from the congregations worshipping in Independent Chapel, St. James-street, and High Pavement Chapel, Nottingham; by Mr. Kershaw, from the Protestant Dissenting Tabernacle, Hillgate, Stockport; by Sir Arthur Elton, from Baptist, Independent, and Primitive Methodist Dissenters of Bath; by Mr. Bramston, from Protestant Dissenters, Bethel Chapel, Woodham Ferris, Essex; by Mr. Thornley, from Protestant Dissenters of Renshaw-street, Chapel, Liverpool, and from Dissenters of Lutton and Fleet, in the county of Lincoln; by Mr. Akroyd, from the congregation of Ramsden-street Chapel, Huddersfield; by Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, from Congregational Dissenters at Deal; by Mr. White, from the congregation of Baltic-street Chapel, Plymouth; by General Thompson, from Protestant Dissenters of Little Horton, Bradford; by Mr. Hadfield, from Protestant Dissenters, Barnsley, Yorkshire, and Moy, county of Tyrone, Ireland; by Mr. Whitmore, from the Protestant Dissenters of Bridgnorth; by Mr. Adeane, from the congregation of Eden Chapel, Cambridge; by Mr. Locke, from Methodist, Baptist, and Unitarian congregations of Honiton; by Mr. H. Berkeley, from the congregation of Frenchay Chapel, Gloucestershire; by Mr. H. Ingram, from the congregation of Salem Chapel, Boston; by Mr. Portman, from Union Chapel, Long-street, Sherborne, Dorset; by Mr. Kinglake, from the ministers and deacons of Sion Chapel, Bridgwater; by Sir J. S. Trelawny, from Independent Protestant Dissenters of Tavistock; by Mr. Selater-Booth, from the Protestant Dissenters of Shipton in Hampshire; by Sir R. Peel, from the ministers and office-bearers of Cole-hill Unitarian Chapel, Tamworth; by Mr. Gore Langton, from Bower Hinton, in the parish of Martock, and from Isle Abbots, Somersetshire; by Mr. J. L. Ricardo, from the congregation of Hope Chapel, Hanley, Staffordshire; also, from the Tabernacle Chapel, Hanley; by Mr. Bazley, from the Protestant Dissenting congregation of Platt Chapel, near Manchester; by Colonel Kingscote, from the congregation of Baptists at Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire; by Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, from a congregation of Protestant Dissenters assembled in Bushey Chapel, Bushey, Herts; by Mr. J. G. Ewart, from the congregation of Protestant Dissenters of Trinity Chapel, Wavertree; by Mr. C. W. Grenfell, from the congregation of Protestant Dissenters of Victoria Chapel, Windsor; by Mr. Tite, from the inhabitants of Bath at a public meeting; from the congregation of Henry-street Chapel; from the congregation meeting in the Unitarian Chapel in Trim-street;

from the congregation of the Baptists, Providence Chapel; by Mr. K. D. Hodgson, from the Unitarian congregation of Bridport; also from the Baptist congregation of Bridport; and by Mr. T. A. Mitchell, from the Independents, Wesleyans, and Quakers—all of Bridport; by Mr. Dodson, from the congregation of Mount-street Chapel, Battle, Sussex; by Mr. Ayrton, from congregation of Worship-street; by Mr. Packe, from Hayfield, in the county of Derby, in favour of Church-rates; from congregation of Protestant Dissenters at Ashby-de-la-Zouch; by Mr. Biggs, from the congregation of Protestant Dissenters assembling in Ebenezer Chapel, St. Peter's-lane; by Captain Hamilton, from the Presbyterian congregation of Chapel-street, Hamilton; by Mr. Bentinck, from the congregation of Protestant Dissenters of Beanston, Northamptonshire; by Mr. Byng, from Protestant Dissenters at Harefield, in Middlesex; by Mr. Paget, in favour of Endowed Schools' Bill, from congregations of General Baptists Chapel, Kerby Woodhouse; Independent, Mansfield; Congregational, East Retford; Independent, Moor-green; Independent, Ranskill; Independent, Hyson-green; General Baptist, Arnold; General Baptist, Mansfield; Independent, Keyworth; Independent, Sneinton; Baptist, New Lenton; Baptist, Southwell; General Baptist, Old Basford; General Baptist, Hucknall Torkard; Independent, Selston; inhabitants of Beeston, all in the county of Nottingham; and from General Baptist, Stoney-street; Baptist, Broad-street; Primitive Methodist and Baptist, George-street; Scotch Baptist, Park-street; Baptist, Derby-road; Independent, Castle-gate; United Methodist Free Church; Independent, Fletcher-gate; Methodist, New Connexion, all in Nottingham; by Mr. G. Onslow, from the congregation of Protestant Dissenters assembling in Meadow Chapel, Godalming; by Mr. R. J. Bagshaw, from the ministers and congregations of Independent and Baptist Churches at Harwich; by Mr. Vansittart, from Newbury; by General Codrington, from Protestant Dissenters at Woolwich; by Mr. Kendall, from the Protestant Dissenters of the Congregational Chapel at Falmouth, county of Cornwall; by Sir J. Duke (G), from Dissenting congregations in the country; by Mr. Locke, from the Mayor and Corporation of Honiton; by Mr. Baxter, from the congregation of Protestant Dissenters assembling in Castle-street Chapel, Dundee; by Mr. Paget, from congregation of Friar-lane Chapel, Nottingham; by Sir J. Duke, from Holywell; by Mr. J. C. Ewart, from Birkenhead, and from the Congregational Chapel of Huyton, Lancashire; by Mr. Nicoll, from Frome; by Mr. W. J. Fox, from Stroud and Broughton; by Mr. H. A. Bruce, from Merthyr Tydfil and Hirwain, Glamorganshire; by Mr. Wykeham Martin, from Tenterden; by Captain Pryse, from Pensam, Lechryd and Tyrris Chapels, county of Carligan; by Mr. Tite, from Argyle-street Chapel, Bath, and Somerset-street Chapel; and by Mr. Morris, from Carmarthen.

MEETINGS OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

MANCHESTER.—An able and interesting address, explanatory of the Parliamentary operations and plans of the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control, was delivered on the 15th February, by Mr. J. Carvell Williams, of London, in Cavendish-street Chapel Schoolroom. James Sidebottom, Esq., presided. Mr. Williams sketched, in a lucid manner, the progress which had been made in the cause of religious liberty during the past seven years. On the motion of the Rev. S. Clarkson, seconded by the Rev. Mr. Watts, a resolution approving of the operations of the society, and pledging the meeting to its support, was carried unanimously. Dr. McKerrow moved the adoption of a petition to Parliament in favour of the Endowed Schools Bill. In the course of his remarks the rev. doctor referred to the flagrant abuse of trust which had taken place in respect to the Blind Asylum Chapel, recently converted into the “St. Thomas's District Church,” and mentioned that an appeal had been made to the Charity Commissioners to institute an inquiry forthwith into the matter. The motion was seconded by C. Wardley, Esq., and carried. The chairman, in returning thanks for a vote of thanks accorded to him, on the motion of the Rev. Joseph Parker, mentioned that Sir James Watts had promised a contribution to the funds of the society of 20l. for three years, and he (the chairman) should do the same.—*Manchester Examiner*.

TAMWORTH.—Nearly 150 persons being in daily expectation of being summoned for a Church-rate, no little excitement was created in this town on the 18th inst., by a visit of J. Carvell Williams, Esq., of London. The town-hall was lent for the occasion, and Mr. Williams delivered a very able and forcible lecture on “The Church-rate question,” which is the title of a pamphlet recently published by the vicar of the town, and which pamphlet served as a good text-book. The lecture was listened to with intense interest, and was frequently applauded. The arguments and facts advanced carried conviction to the mind of the audience, and at the close the meeting pledged itself to continued earnest opposition to the unjust exaction, until it be abolished. Before the motion was put, Mr. Knight, a lawyer, rose to move an amendment, but, in his anxiety to catechise the lecturer and browbeat the audience, he lost his temper and forgot his amendment. The motion, on being put to the meeting, was carried by at least 250 to 9! Another legal gentleman, who was present, replying to Mr. Knight, said it would have been better if he had grappled with the arguments, facts, and figures of the lecturer, instead of calling them fallacies and clap-trap. Mr. Hammell, a magistrate, who was present, whilst dissenting from

the lecturer, expressed his admiration of the spirit and ability he had displayed. Votes of thanks to Mr. W., the chairman, and the Mayor, closed the meeting—a meeting which is quite an epoch in the history of Tamworth.—*From a Correspondent*.

PERTH.—A meeting was held in the Guildhall on the evening of the 17th February, John Pullar, Esq., in the chair. The Rev. Robert Cameron, of the North U.P. Church, opened by prayer. After Mr. Oulton had concluded, a vote of thanks to him, and of continued confidence in the society, was moved by the Rev. John Pillans (Independent), seconded by the Rev. T. Miller, of the South U.P. Church, and carried unanimously.

LANEYLLIN.—At a meeting held in the Vestry-room of our parish church on Feb. 17th, a proposal of a penny rate was negatived, and the following amendment passed unanimously:—“That the vestry requests the churchwardens to apply to the parishioners for subscriptions to meet the expenses of the year, and adjourn for six months, to enable them to do so.” The pro-rate party seeing the opponents so numerously mustered, lost courage, did not press the demand, and gave way to the more reasonable foregoing amendment. The question was represented on the one hand by the vicar, Messrs. Reel and Biby; and on the other by Messrs. E. Evans, C. R. Jones, and J. Jones. The latter conducted their part well, and delivered telling speeches. We are greatly indebted too to the Liberation Society; and feel thankful to its officials for their prompt attention to our application for practical directions.—*From a Correspondent*.

MILITARY HONOURS TO RELIGIOUS PROCESSIONS.

The following is a copy of the general circular of the late Lord Hill, alluded to by Sir E. B. Lytton, as the order which now regulates the conduct of the military in all our Roman Catholic colonies:—

Horse Guards, June 26, 1837.

It having been deemed expedient to lay down fixed and specific rules with regard to the extent to which her Majesty's land forces shall, for the future, pay military honours to religious processions in Catholic countries in which any portion of the said forces shall happen to be serving, I have it in command to direct your special attention to the following, and to express Lord Hill's desire that you cause the same to be strictly observed by the troops serving under your orders, viz.:

Troops are not to turn out for, move with, or take any active part in any religious procession or ceremonial.

All sentries are, however, to salute the procession as it passes their posts. All guards and other bodies of troops that happen to be under arms in the direct line of the procession are to salute it as it passes them, but are not to remain under arms for the procession after it has passed them, nor to await its return.

The usual salutes of cannon from forts or batteries for Catholic processions may be continued; but on these occasions a simple order only for firing the salute on the day and hour specified is to be given, without specifying the occasion for which it is to be fired.

Lord Hill anxiously hopes and trusts that, notwithstanding the foregoing instructions, every officer, non-commissioned officer, and soldier, under your command, will (as heretofore) continue to carry himself with the utmost forbearance and respect towards the ministers and other members of the Catholic religion, as well as towards their religious institutions, bearing constantly in mind that the present regulation is made to meet the conscientious scruples of individuals, without in the remotest degree encouraging or contemplating a diminution of that respectful consideration with which the British army has ever been enjoined to regard the religious feelings, habits, and even prejudices of every foreign country in which it has been required to serve.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN MACDONALD, A. G.

Addressed to General Officers Commanding at the Mediterranean, Mauritius, and Canada.

The following is No. 16 in the Standing Orders for the Malta Garrison:—

For Guards in the island of Malta, No. 16:—All guards to turn out to the Bishop of Malta, and pay him the honours due to a Brigadier-General. Sentries to present arms, and to carry arms as the Host passes. This was probably issued subsequent to the above, and directly contravenes its provisions.

CHURCH-RATES AT CAYTHORPE.—An attempt to impose a rate at Caythorpe, Notts, has signally failed. The village having been well placarded with bills the vestry was numerously attended by the opponents of the rate; and, in the absence of the vicar, one of their number, Mr. B. F. Faulkes, took the chair. One of the churchwardens having proposed a rate of fivepence in the pound. Mr. T. Faulkes moved “That this vestry declines to make any rate, and requests the churchwardens to propose some other mode of obtaining the requisite funds.” On this amendment being put to the vestry it was affirmed by a large majority, and the churchwardens, feeling probably that their case was a hopeless one, did not demand a poll. One circumstance which no doubt contributed to this result was, that the vote, if carried, would have been illegal, many retrospective items being included in the estimate.

THE NEW DEAN OF CHICHESTER.—We are informed that the Rev. Dr. Hook, Vicar of Leeds, has had the deanery of Chichester offered to him by the Government, and has accepted the offer.—*Times*.

MISSION OF SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE.—Sir Moses Montefiore, having accepted the mission entrusted to him by the board of deputies on behalf of the boy Mortara, abducted from his parents and forcibly detained by the Papal government, will set out on Wednesday next, on his journey to Italy. He is the bearer of a memorial from the English Jews to the Pope, soliciting the restoration of the child to

his desolate parents. The worthy baronet is accompanied by Lady Montefiore, Mr. G. Kursheedt, of New Orleans, and Dr. Hodgkin. Prayers for the success of his mission were offered up in all metropolitan synagogues.—*Jewish Chronicle*.

THE WESLEYANS AND THE CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT.—The Rev. J. M. Joll, of Spalding, in a letter to the *Watchman*, complains of the treatment experienced by Mr. Job Wilson, a class leader at Gedney-hill. This individual had submissively allowed four of his children who had died successively, to be buried in the churchyard without any religious service, notwithstanding they "had been baptized by Wesleyan ministers." Having lost a fifth child, Mr. Joll required the Rev. Thomas Clark, the incumbent, (on the authority of a recent legal decision) to inter the child with due form. Mr. Clark, not recognising the fact that the child having "been baptized by a Wesleyan minister" was of any importance, persisted in regarding it as "unbaptized," and refused to inter it without the Bishop's order. The Bishop of Lincoln was appealed to, and at once directed the interment, and the incumbent ultimately submitted.

Religious Intelligence.

THE REV. C. H. SPURGEON has, it is said, changed his purpose, and will not visit America at present, having found reason to doubt whether the invitation he had received was a sufficient one.

HUNDON, SUFFOLK.—The Rev. John Ross visited this village on Tuesday last, (at the request of the friends connected with the chapel,) for the purpose of delivering an address on "Christian Beneficence," and particularly on the "Weekly Offering" system. On which occasion between 300 and 400 persons were present, and listened with the greatest attention to his admirable address.

SPECIAL FUND FOR INDIA.—Rev. F. Trestrail, Secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society, preached in Charles-street Chapel, on Sunday morning last, and at Belvoir-street in the evening, and brought before his hearers the claims of India. We are glad to find that the result of his canvass has realised the sum of 320*l*. The object of the fund is to send ten additional missionaries to that important sphere of labour.—*Leicester Mercury*.

OPENING OF A NEW CHAPEL AT CHELMSFORD.—This new Independent Chapel, which, in tasteful architecture and enlarged convenience, has been raised by the liberality of the Nonconformist body on the site of the old building, was opened for public worship on Tuesday last; and the occasion drew together a large congregation of the leading Dissenters of the county. It has been built in the decorated style of Gothic architecture. The interior is 67 feet long by 38 feet 6 inches wide; and there are galleries over the entrance end and along both sides, seats being thus obtained for 920 persons—400 more than in the old chapel.

BARNET, N.—TESTIMONIAL TO A MINISTER.—The Rev. J. Chisman Beadle, pastor of the Congregational Chapel, in Wood-street, Barnet, having been compelled through ill health to resign his appointment, after a successful ministry of nearly six years, has just been presented with a testimonial as an evidence of affectionate and grateful recognition of the value of his services. The testimonial consists of a time-piece, a moderator lamp, and a purse of money, &c. The feeling of sincere respect and esteem that has prompted this tribute, and the exertions which have earned it, reflect equal honour on the givers and the recipient.—*From the Barnet Gazette*.

HORTON COLLEGE, BRADFORD.—The annual entertainment given by the students of this college to the students of Airedale College, took place on Friday evening, the 18th inst. Tea and coffee were served at half-past five o'clock, and desert at half-past seven, after which interesting addresses were delivered by the two tutors present, the Revs. J. G. Green, B.A., and C. Daniell; also by two of the town ministers, the Revs. J. P. Chown and H. J. Betts. Mr. Dick (formerly a student at Airedale College), who is shortly to leave England for Benares, gave a few parting words of exhortation. During the evening short addresses were given by the students of the two institutions, chiefly bearing on the topic—"Ministers and Amusements."

OXFORD.—SPECIAL SERVICES FOR THE WORKING CLASSES.—On Sunday afternoon week was witnessed one of the largest congregations ever assembled in the Oxford Town Hall for a religious purpose. The Hall will hold from 1,200 to 1,500 people, and hundreds went away unable to gain admission. The opening service was conducted by the Rev. David Martin, of the Congregational Chapel, George-street, and nothing could exceed the decorum and fixed attention manifested throughout. The bulk of the hearers were literally working men, with their wives and families, and not a few of that class who seldom enter a place of worship. It is intended to follow up these services so happily begun, at least during the present month.

UNION CHAPEL, LUTON-BEDS.—The annual tea-meeting of the church and congregation assembling in Union Chapel, was held on Friday last, the 15th inst. The festival was attended by an overwhelming crowd of guests. The school-rooms in which tea was served had the appearance of a bowery arcade, from the profusion of laurel wherewith the walls and beams and pillars were adorned. Flowers and banners were interspersed among the greenery. Owing to the thronged and heated state of the rooms the company adjourned after tea to the chapel, where a most interesting service was held.

The Rev. J. Makepeace, minister of the chapel, presided. After singing, the Rev. M. Wake, of Markyate-street, offered prayer. The Rev. D. Gould, of Dunstable, spoke effectively on the subject of popular amusements, and gave good counsel as to what principles should guide all in the matter of recreations. The Rev. W. Payne, of Chesham, spoke with much emphasis on the needs of the church in the present day. The Rev. C. Vince, of Birmingham, delivered a most humorous and excellent speech on a variety of interesting topics. Concluding addresses were given by Revs. J. Hands and P. H. Comfort. From the financial report it appeared that the debt on the chapel had been considerably reduced during the year.

TRURO.—The anniversary services of the Baptist Chapel, River-street, Truro, commenced on the 13th inst. On the Sunday sermons were preached in the morning and evening by the Rev. E. H. Tuckett, of Exeter (formerly pastor of the church); in the afternoon, by the Rev. E. Dennett, the present pastor. On Monday there was a tea-meeting in the school-room, after which a public meeting was held in the chapel, when addresses were delivered by the Revs. T. Rider (New Connexion), T. B. Hart, of Tregony (Independent), E. H. Tuckett, J. Walcott, of Falmouth, R. Panks (Independent), and E. Dennett. W. H. Bond, Esq., occupied the chair. On Tuesday evening a comprehensive and instructive lecture was delivered by the Rev. E. H. Tuckett, on "The Rise and Progress of Christian Missions." Collections on behalf of the debt on the chapel were made after each of the services, all of which were numerously attended.

SPECIAL AFTERNOON SERVICES.—In consequence of the great number of persons assembling every Sunday evening at St. James's Hall, who are unable to obtain admission, the committee for conducting these special services determined to open the Hall on Sunday afternoons in the hope, especially, of securing the attendance of that class of working men and their families who are in the habit, too often, of spending this portion of their leisure time in idleness or dissipation. The experiment, which was commenced on Sunday last, was remarkably successful. Long before three o'clock the hall was filled, and the congregation unquestionably consisted of working men. The sermon by the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., minister of Surrey Chapel, from the words, "The poor have the Gospel preached to them" (Matt. ix. 5), was eminently practical, and was succeeded by a prayer meeting, in which only working men were engaged. The evening service was conducted by the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, B.A., who preached from Luke xv. 10 to a very crowded congregation.

NORWICH OLD MEETING.—JUVENILE MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The anniversary of the above society was held in the Old Meeting School-rooms, on Wednesday, the 16th inst. At five o'clock nearly 300 friends sat down to tea, which number was so greatly increased by seven o'clock, when the public meeting commenced, that even standing room could not be found, and many were obliged to retire, not being able to gain admittance. After singing, prayer was offered by the pastor, the Rev. J. Hallett, who presided, and introduced the business of the meeting. A brief, but deeply interesting report was read by the secretary, Mr. J. Hancock, to which was appended a list of the young friends who had obtained subscriptions amounting to the sum of 26*l*. 14*s*. during the past year, being more than double that raised in the preceding year. Very admirable addresses were delivered by the Revs. A. Reed, B.A., London, A. Bourne, B.A., Lowestoft, I. Alexander, and F. S. Turner, B.A., of Princes-street Chapel, and H. Bourne, Esq., London, who for many years resided in the West Indies. Messrs. Hancock and Shields thanked their pastor and the friends for the interest they had taken in the meeting, and urged upon their companions in labour some very practical considerations.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE REV. G. W. CONDER'S RESIGNATION.—We learn with considerable pleasure that the Rev. G. W. Conder has withdrawn his resignation of the pastorate of Belgrave Chapel, in compliance with the request of the church and congregation; and we are sure the announcement will be received with general satisfaction by all with whom the rev. gentleman has come in contact, whether in his private or public character. The fact was made known to the church at a general meeting of the congregation on Thursday night, by a letter from Mr. Conder, which expresses the hope that he shall be able to resume, in deed as well as fact, his pastoral duties with new vigour, at no long distance of time. The disease in his throat, he says, has increased in severity since he ceased to preach, and cannot begin to heal without the influences of genial climate along with rest. He proposes therefore to leave England, as soon as circumstances permit, for a few months' residence in a warmer climate, and knowing his physical inability to speak in public, he shall not attempt to preach to his congregation before his departure. He concludes by asking for their prayers. After the letter had been read, a resolution was adopted in which the congregation expressed their delight at the withdrawal of Mr. Conder's resignation. They regretted to learn that his throat was worse, but hoped that a residence in a warmer climate would, with the Divine blessing, effect an entire cure. They also expressed the earnest hope that the cause of Christ in the church would not languish during their pastor's absence.—*Leeds Mercury*.

LEICESTER.—LONDON-ROAD CHAPEL.—On Monday week upwards of 500 members of the congregation took tea together in the schoolroom, which was twice

filled. After tea Mr. John Bennett was called to the chair, and he having appropriately stated the purposes of the assembly, requested Mr. T. O. Beale to propose and Mr. T. Nunneley, jun., to second a resolution, conveying a very kind assurance of regard to the minister and deacons, and proposing that, as the best practical evidence of sincerity, an effort should be made to reduce the debt on the building by 1,000*l*., to be paid into the treasurer's hand not later than next new year's day. The resolution having been enthusiastically adopted, slips of paper were handed round, and contributions were thus promised, in sums varying from half-a-crown to 100*l*., amounting to upwards of 500*l*. Rev. R. W. McAll, in acknowledging the resolution, expressed warm attachment to the people of his charge, and mentioned the fact, that in every department of Christian effort they had enjoyed, since the origin of the congregation a year and a-half ago, abundant tokens of prosperity. He made special reference to the numbers of the congregation not previously in attendance at any place of worship, and to the unbroken harmony and zealous co-operation which had prevailed. In the course of his remarks he alluded to the necessity of additional accommodation for the Sunday-school; and the consequence was a unanimous vote in favour of erecting, without delay, a large upper schoolroom. It was also determined to hold a bazaar or fancy sale in furtherance of the general effort. The meeting was subsequently addressed by Messrs. Swain, Nunneley, Latchmore, and Rodhouse, deacons of the church, and by other gentlemen. The mode of sustaining the entire current expenditure by the "weekly offering" (i.e., by contributions in closed boxes) was spoken of with warmest approval, and as having been, during the past year, entirely successful. The statement of the sums raised by the congregation, for various purposes during the same period, was presented, from which it appeared, that including the bazaar and the donations to the building fund, they had exceeded 2,200*l*.

WEIGH-HOUSE CHAPEL.—DARBY-STREET MISSION. The annual meeting of the members and friends of this institution was held in the large room behind the chapel, on Tuesday evening, Mr. Samuel Morley in the chair. The Secretary read a report showing, that while the educational department of the mission continued to prosper there was room for improvement in the department of home mission work. The Chairman said he felt that, just in proportion as they realised individual effort and personal responsibility, would they succeed in making inroads on the territory of ungodliness; and he did most earnestly hope that in carrying on the present mission they would keep that principle in mind. He was glad that Mr. Wilson was now among them, and that he felt a deep interest in the present mission. Even the Bishop of London had not been above taking a lesson out of the book of this devoted Nonconformist; and without abating in any degree his love for his own principles of Nonconformity and Congregationalism, he (Mr. Morley) gladly hailed the labours of such a bishop as a blessing to London. (Applause.) He was realising practically, what every bishop of every church ought to realise, that Christianity was an aggressive system of truth; and he had no hesitation in saying that, in the case of their own bishop, nothing would really delight his heart more on his return from Australia, than to find their Darby-street Mission revived and prosperous, and every one doing his utmost to reclaim that moral waste. (Applause.) Dr. Cooke moved the adoption of the report, and Mr. Barton seconded the motion, which was cordially passed. The Rev. J. H. Wilson moved a resolution expressive of sympathy with the objects of the mission, and an earnest desire to support and sustain them.

He had visited the district, and met with many of the people; had been in the schools, and addressed all their meetings, and he felt deeply impressed with the conviction that something more must be done than had yet been attempted before that moral waste could be reclaimed. The schools were really prosperous and useful, but unless the visitation of the district were speedily undertaken, and systematic efforts made to get hold of the parents as well as the children, the mission would languish and decay. . . . A more suitable field for home mission effort than Darby-street and Rosemary-lane he did not know; and he felt persuaded that as there was now every prospect of their esteemed pastor's health being restored, they could not erect a more appropriate memorial of their thankfulness to God for this blessing, than so to work this mission that it would come to be a prosperous and permanent institution. He was ready to take his full share of the work, and if they would now concentrate effort on one manageable spot, enlarging the field of operations as their means of reclaiming were multiplied; if they would appoint a ladies' committee, and place under its charge a female missionary; if the lady visitors would themselves select some ten families each, and confine their labours to these families; if tracts and Bibles were sold, and payment taken in pence; if the visited were invited to take tea in the schoolroom with the visitor, and afterwards suitably addressed; if cottage prayer-meetings were opened and public lectures for the working men on temperance and other subjects delivered; if all this were prayerfully and perseveringly sustained, in a few years Rosemary-lane, instead of being a moral desert, would become what its name implies, "The garden of the Lord." (Applause.)

Mr. Wilson then stated a number of facts of a most encouraging nature, connected with aggressive efforts recently carried out by several of the Congregational and Baptist Churches of London, and stated that when the Bishop of London had himself gone and opened a room for the poorer classes, where they might be recruited for the service of God at head-quarters, and when the invitations to attend were signed "affectionately, your friend and bishop,"

surely every pastor of every one of their churches would be found similarly engaged, and like Nehemiah, and the priests and Levites, in rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem, go forward with their deacons and others, for the people have now a mind to work. One minister had, with his deacons, visited a thousand families in one street, four of whom only were attending the means of grace; but now one hundred persons were every Sunday at the chapel from that street, and by concentrating all their strength on that one district, there was now the prospect of such an increase of aggressive power, as that the other destitute districts around would be efficiently worked. Indeed there never was a time when a more sincere desire animated their ministers and people than at present, to do good to the neglected masses around; and he felt assured that the Weigh-House Church was now entering on a new era in which its wonted character as an aggressive church would be gloriously developed. (Applause.) The Rev. John Kelly, of Liverpool, seconded the motion. He felt greatly interested in the practical address which they had heard from Mr. Wilson, and hoped they would all be encouraged to go forward. Rev. D. K. Williams, Mr. Elty, Mr. Gough, and other gentlemen addressed the meeting.

Correspondence.

COMPULSORY VACCINATION ACT.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—According to a return just published by the Registrar-General, I perceive that not two-thirds of the children are vaccinated, although 20s. fine is attached for the neglect. This shows clearly the necessity for an alteration of the law, as it is broken with impunity by hundreds every day.

May I suggest the propriety of petitions to the House of Commons against this foolish, expensive, ineffectual measure.

Feb. 19, 1859.

BILSTON.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

On Thursday Lord GREY asked whether the accounts in the newspapers of certain proposals for a change in the constitution of the Ionian Islands, recommended to the Ionian Parliament by the Lord High Commissioner, Mr. Gladstone, were authentic; and, if so, whether those proposals met with the approval of the Government? and, also, whether there was any objection to lay the correspondence that had passed on the subject before the House?

Lord CARNARVON stated that the accounts in the newspapers were perfectly authentic and correct. After explaining the reasons why Mr. Gladstone was appointed Lord High Commissioner, he said that it was not in his power to place the correspondence on the table, as such a proceeding might prejudice the question when discussed in the Ionian Parliament. After the Ionian Parliament had come to a decision he should have no objection to lay the correspondence before the House.

Lord GREY hoped that the question would be discussed on Monday.

Lord DERBY declined to discuss the question in its present state. In answer to Lord Ellenborough, he explained that the consent of the Crown was necessary to any act of the Ionian Parliament. He deprecated any anticipation of a question about to be discussed in the Ionian Parliament, as prejudicial to the public interests.

On Monday, Lord DERBY made an appeal to Lord Grey to postpone his motion. He considered that, as this question was still under discussion in the Ionian Parliament, it would be highly disadvantageous to the public interests to anticipate the decision of that assembly. The resolutions which had been made public were authentic. They had, however, been forwarded without any explanation annexed by the Lord High Commissioner. He thought that as Mr. Gladstone would be in England by Monday or Tuesday week it would be fair to that gentleman if Lord Grey would postpone his motion.

Lord GREY said that the reasons given by Lord Derby to induce him to postpone his motion had placed him in a difficult position. He observed that the Ionian Islands differed from other British colonies, for if anything injurious to British interests in the colonies is done the Government can abrogate it. Not so in the Ionian Islands. If her Majesty once ratifies an act passed by the Ionian Parliament the British Parliament has no further authority in the matter. Still he was perfectly willing to postpone his motion on condition that, in the event of the Ionian Parliament agreeing to the resolutions proposed to them, such resolutions should not be submitted for her Majesty's ratification before the British Parliament had expressed its opinion upon them.

Lord BROUGHAM strongly urged Lord Grey to postpone his motion, out of fairness to Mr. Gladstone, whose return was so speedily expected.

Lord DERBY promised Lord Grey that if he would postpone his motion for a fortnight no act passed by the Ionian Parliament should be ratified by her Majesty before the House had had an opportunity of speaking on the subject. In answer to two questions from Lord Granville, he stated that the resolutions were submitted to the Ionian Parliament on the 5th ult., and that up to the present time no decision had been come to by that assembly; that the observations made by the Lord High Commissioner were made by the consent of her Majesty's Govern-

ment, but that the resolutions had not been previously seen by the Government, although they did no more than embody the instructions which Mr. Gladstone had received.

THE TRANSFER OF LAND.

On Friday, Lord BROUGHAM, in presenting a petition from Mr. Fawcett respecting copyhold conveyance, complained of the present state of the law on the subject, and expressed his intention of introducing a measure to ameliorate existing evils. Adverting to the bill which has recently been introduced into the House of Commons by the Solicitor-General for facilitating the transfer of land, the noble lord said he regarded the speech of his hon. and learned friend the Solicitor-General in propounding that measure as an event in the history of our legislation, and in the history of the amendment of the law. Some persons were desirous of altering the laws relating to land by attacking the law of primogeniture, but he thought that law was sound in principle, and any alteration of it would inflict a fatal blow upon the British constitution.

The LORD CHANCELLOR agreed with Lord Brougham that the registration of titles and facilities in the transfer of land were desirable—the difficulty was how such an object might be effected.

SCOTCH EDUCATION.

Lord AIRLIE asked, whether it is the intention of the Government to introduce a measure for the improvement of the system of education in Scotland during the present session. In alluding to the various disadvantages under which the present system of education in Scotland laboured, he particularly called the attention of the House to the very low salaries paid to schoolmasters in Scotland.

Lord DERBY said, the subject was full of difficulty arising from religious differences of opinion. He could not pledge himself to introduce a measure on the subject. The attention of the Government had been drawn to the question, and a correspondence with the Scotch members was going on at the present time. He hoped, however, to be able to introduce a measure which should satisfy the views of both parties.

Lord CAMPBELL feared it was a hopeless task to attempt to bring forward a general bill, which should satisfy both the Established Church and the Free Church; but he suggested that the status and salaries of the schoolmasters might be treated in a separate measure, which would thus remove a most crying injustice.

Lord BROUGHAM also trusted that some steps would be taken to remove the great scandal which at present attached to Scotland from the low salaries of the parochial schoolmasters.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE MARRIAGES LAW.

At the mid-day sitting on Wednesday, Lord BURY moved the second reading of the Marriage Law Amendment Bill. This measure, which would render legal marriage with a deceased wife's sister, was, he said, word for word the same as that introduced in and passed by the House of Commons last session.

The motion was seconded by Mr. SCHNEIDER.

Mr. HORN, in moving to defer the second reading for six months, reiterated the arguments he had urged upon former occasions against the proposed change of the law, which, he contended, would open the door to ulterior changes destructive of social purity. The decision of the other House, which had rejected the former bills, had been indorsed, he said, by the good sense and good feeling of the country.

Mr. E. BALL said he had always supported this measure, and he had heard nothing from the hon. gentleman to induce him to change his opinion. As to the feelings of the religious societies on this matter, those with which he was more immediately connected were strongly in its favour, and 750 clergymen of the Church of England had petitioned in its favour. As to the social grounds, he could not conceive any reason for which the law should prohibit these very marriages, which seemed most likely to secure the happiness of the deceased wife's children. (Hear.)

Mr. BUXTON said it was argued that there was no strong feeling in the country about the matter; but seeing that in the last ten years 830,000 petitions had been presented in favour of the change, seeing that nearly the whole press of the country took the same side, and seeing that the House of Commons had declared several times by a great majority its opinion, and therefore the opinion of the whole country, that the restriction ought to be done away, there really seemed to be more agitation in favour of the bill than might have been looked for, since it did not practically touch the mass of the people, but only scattered individuals.

Mr. DRUMMOND thought the House of Commons was acting this session in a manner very characteristic of what was called the "Progress of Liberalism;" in one week a bill was introduced to sanctify sacrilege—in the next another to sanctify incest.

Mr. AKROYD and General THOMPSON spoke in favour of the measure.

Mr. STEUART deduced an argument against the bill from its non-extension to Scotland and Ireland.

Sir G. LEWIS, approving the principle of the bill, suggested to its opponents why they should not relax their opposition, and whether they could expect to induce the country permanently to submit to a state of the law which does not exist in any other country.

Mr. WALPOLE observed that this was a question of altering the relations of the marriage state contrary to the law, not only of this country, but, unless it were carried further, to the law of other Protestant

States. He urged the strange inconsistencies and anomalies into which such a change would plunge us, and that nothing could be so dangerous as to pass a law upon this subject for one part of the kingdom only; and he asked, if the law were relaxed in regard to one case of affinity, what was to be done in other cases? He gave his hearty opposition to the second reading of the bill.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL said that for several years during which the House had discussed the question he had felt the difficulties to be so great on both sides that he had refrained from giving any vote on the subject. But he had satisfied himself that there was not any religious prohibition of these marriages. Upon the social part of the question, balancing the disadvantages on one side against the practical evils on the other, he was ready, he said, to forego his strong objections to an alteration of the law. But if Parliament agreed to this change, it could not stop there. (Hear, hear.) In voting for the second reading of this bill he should consider the change of the law utterly imperfect unless they further altered it so as to make it equally applicable to both sexes, and to all the degrees of relationship which had been mentioned. He certainly felt the question to be one of great difficulty, and it was not without some reluctance that he felt bound to vote upon it. (Cheers.)

Mr. WALTER said it was not a question only of what they would give by this bill; but it was also a question of what they would take away; and it was his belief, founded upon personal experience, that what they proposed to give would not compensate for what they proposed to take away.

Lord BURY, in the course of his reply, adverted to Mr. Walpole's arguments:—

The right hon. gentleman said that when you married a woman her daughter became your daughter, her sister your sister, and that, in fact, when you married a woman you married her whole family. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) He (Lord Bury) should like to submit that opinion to the impartial verdict of the whole community of England. (Hear.) Did the right hon. gentleman mean for a moment to say that when a man married a woman he made her mother his mother, and was there anybody who would like that arrangement? ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) He (Lord Bury) maintained that there was no such relationship, and though he, as a young member of the House, should feel the greatest hesitation in gainsaying the authority of the right hon. gentleman, still he asserted that to mix up the ties of consanguinity and affinity in that manner was not a fair argument to offer against the bill. (Cheers.) Would any hon. gentleman with a smattering of physiology say that by marrying a woman you mixed one drop of your blood with that of her relations? Then there was an argument which had been endorsed by the noble Lord the member for the city of London, and that was, that if a man ought to be permitted to marry the sister of his deceased wife he ought also to be permitted to marry his deceased wife's niece and other relations in the same category. He had no answer to make to that. (Derisive cheers.)

The House then divided—
For the motion ... 135
Against ... 77
Majority ... —68

The bill was committed on Thursday.

ADMISSION OF JEW MEMBERS.

During the course of this discussion Baron Meyer de Rothschild, recently elected member for Hythe, came to the table to be sworn. A resolution, in conformity with the act passed last session, for allowing him to take the Parliamentary oath, omitting the words "on the true faith of a Christian," was proposed by Mr. A. Smith, and seconded by Lord J. Russell. After a short conversation this motion was agreed to, and the hon. member duly took his seat.

On Thursday Mr. Alderman Salomons also took the oath.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE gave notice that on Monday, March 3, he should move the following resolution:—That whereas, this House has on two previous occasions, resolved that a person professing the Jewish religion, may henceforth, in taking the oath prescribed by the act of last session, omit the words, "and I make this declaration on the true faith of a Christian," be it therefore further resolved that the same be made a standing order. (Cheers.)

REFORM OF PARLIAMENT.

On Thursday Mr. BLAND asked the Chief Secretary for Ireland whether her Majesty's Government intended to bring in a bill to amend the laws relating to the representation of the people in Ireland this session; and, if so, whether he could state about what time?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that, with the permission of the House, he would propose to defer answering questions respecting Reform until the 28th inst., when he should make a general statement on the subject. (Hear, hear.)

THE BALLOT.

Mr. DILLWYN asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies, whether a bill or act, establishing the ballot at elections in the colony of New South Wales, and passed by the Legislature of that colony, had been sent over by the Governor for the Royal Assent; and, if so, whether such assent had been given?

Sir B. LYTTON said that such a bill had been received. The Royal Assent had not been given. It was under consideration.

REAL ESTATE INTESACY.

Mr. LOCKE KING moved for leave to bring in a bill for the better settling the Real Estates of Intestates. He shortly explained the law which now governed the distribution of real property, and pointed out its anomalies. The bill he proposed to introduce would, he said, apply one uniform law to real and personal estate, so that where a party died

without a will his freehold land should be dealt with in the same manner as his personal property.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL abstained from offering any opposition to the first reading of the measure. There were however, he observed, innumerable difficulties surrounding the scheme, as outlined by the proposer, which he feared it would be found almost impossible to overcome.

LORD H. VANE was not convinced of the necessity or propriety of an alteration of the law, for which there was no demand on the part of the public.

MR. MELLOR supported the motion. The bill would leave the action of a testator perfectly free; it would merely, in the case of no will, distribute the property equitably. He did not believe that intestacies arose because people were content with the existing law, but because, fancying they would never die (a laugh), they continually postponed the making of their will, and at length died suddenly without having made it.

MR. HADFIELD approved the bill, because it would go a great way towards accomplishing a most desirable object—namely, the doing away with all distinction between real and personal property.

Leave was given, and the bill was subsequently brought in and read a first time.

RESTRICTIONS UPON THE PRESS.

MR. AYRTON moved for leave to bring in a bill to repeal certain Acts and parts of Acts relating to newspapers, pamphlets, and other publications, and to printers, type-founders, and reading-rooms. He reviewed the history of the Acts in question, their origin and objects, contending that they were exceptional laws, suited to extraordinary times; that the restrictions they imposed were as unnecessary as they were obnoxious; and he proposed to sweep away these ancient statutory provisions, and to leave these publications to the general law.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL observed that, as some of the enactments referred to were obsolete and never enforced, he thought it was a sound principle not to allow them to remain upon the Statute-book. He should not, therefore, offer any opposition to the introduction of the bill.

Leave was given.

THE EDUCATIONAL VOTE FOR SCOTLAND.

LORD MELGUND moved a resolution, that the annual vote of money for education in Great Britain to be henceforth divided into two votes,—one vote to be taken for England, and another for Scotland.

MR. ADDERLEY said, it was with great reluctance he opposed the views of Lord Melgund, but, when he considered the object of his proposition, he saw much danger in it, for, if it had any effect at all, it must produce a diversity of system in England and in Scotland, and, in his opinion, there should be no diversity of principle. He suggested other objections to a separation of the vote.

ANNUITY TAX (EDINBURGH, &c.)

MR. BLACK moved for leave to bring in a bill to abolish the Ministers' Money or Annuity Tax, levied within the city of Edinburgh, the parish of Canon-gate, and the burgh of Montrose. He had had the honour of introducing the bill last year, when it was defeated on the second reading by a majority of only one. This odious impost had been the cause of much acrimonious dispute, and even of tumult, and ought to be abolished.

The LORD-ADVOCATE did not intend to object to the introduction of the bill, but the hon. proposer must not be surprised to find him opposing the measure in its future stages.

Leave was given to bring in the bill.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS BILL.

On the motion of MR. DILLWYN, the order of the day for the second reading of this bill was read for the purpose of being discharged, and the bill was withdrawn.

THE NAVIGATION LAW.

On Friday MR. HUNT called attention to a letter dated Foreign Office, 10th of November, 1858, purporting to be a communication from the Earl of Malmesbury to the Chamber of Commerce of Greenock, on the subject of the Navigation Laws. If the communication, he observed, was an honest one, it afforded reason for well-grounded alarm; if otherwise, he denounced it as an unworthy clap-net.

MR. SKYMOUR FITZGERALD, the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said that the Government had proposed a repeal of the Navigation Laws. The honourable member must have been very hard up for a grievance when he took up such a subject as that.

THE NEW FOREIGN OFFICE.

SIR BENJAMIN HALL renewed the attack upon the First Commissioner of Works on account of his selection of Mr. Gilbert Scott's Gothic design for the new Foreign Office, while he rejected the designs of the two gentlemen who obtained the two best premiums. LORD JOHN MANNERS defended both Mr. Scott and his design. He thought that as the new office would front Westminster Abbey and would back into Downing-street, nothing could be more appropriate. Various opinions were offered on the scheme. MR. CONINGHAM condemned the Gothic Houses of Parliament. LORD PALMERSTON made a fierce attack upon Westminster Hospital, which was the work of Mr. Scott. All public buildings should be gay and cheerful externally, and light and airy inside.

THE EAST INDIA LOAN.

LORD STANLEY, in moving that the House do resolve itself into a Committee upon the East India Loan, took an opportunity of explaining the discrepancy between the statement he made the other night regarding the finances of India and the Parliamentary papers laid before the House. Great part of this discrepancy, he observed, arose from the

different rates at which the rupee was converted into sterling money. He had stated the gross revenue of India in 1856-57 at 33,303,000*l.*, and the Parliamentary paper gave the amount 29,702,000*l.* A great part of this difference was due to his having taken the rupee at 2*s.*, whereas in the Parliamentary accounts it was taken at 1*s.* 10*d.* He believed that his value, with reference to the price of bullion, was much the nearest; but this accounted for a discrepancy of 2,081,000*l.* Another cause of discrepancy, which he had not been aware of at the time, was that in the Parliamentary accounts items were included to the amount of 1,319,000*l.*, which were not considered to form a part of the public revenue. In future, however, they should be included in the annual accounts. LORD STANLEY gave further explanations regarding particular items. The amount of debt he had stated was strictly correct; its total was 74,543,000*l.*, including the home debt, as well as that raised in India.

The House having then resolved itself into a committee,

SIR C. WOOD strenuously urged the inexpediency and impolicy of this country undertaking the pecuniary liabilities of India; but, if we wished to avoid them, we must, he observed, be exceedingly cautious in dealing with Indian revenue and Indian expenditure. He noticed the disproportionate increase of the latter, and, in considering the future prospects of the revenue, he thought that there was, at present, a prospect rather of a reduction than of an increase in the land revenue, while that derived from opium was variable and precarious. The Chinese, having legalised the importation of opium, might sanction its cultivation in China, a measure which would seriously affect the Indian revenue. He discussed the modes suggested by Lord Stanley of keeping down the expenditure, by reducing the salaries of the European servants, and by a more extensive employment of natives. To the latter expedient he offered various objections; and, upon the whole, he was of opinion that the civil expenditure was more likely to increase than diminish. The military establishment was the only branch of the expenditure in which any material reduction could be made, but upon this point Lord Stanley had given the House no information, though it was evident that we must be prepared for a considerable increase of the European force in India. His calculation of the Indian liabilities exceeded that of Lord Stanley; including the present loan he believed they amounted to 90,000,000*l.*

SIR E. PERRY threw some still darker tints into the picture. He regarded the present state of the finances of India as alarming. The Indian debt, properly speaking, amounted, he said, to 110,676,955*l.*, which, taking the net revenue at 23,000,000*l.*, was a very large debt, being more than four years' revenue. He insisted that the Indian Government should be compelled to make the expenditure and the revenue balance each other. He advocated, upon political as well as economical grounds, the larger employment of native functionaries, and the creating a property in land, to be given to European settlers as well as natives. He was hopeful of India, under a good Government, with a native agency.

MR. V. SMITH had, however, better hopes of the elasticity of the Indian land revenue than either Lord Stanley or Sir C. Wood, and he believed that fresh taxes might be levied. The civil expenditure might, in his opinion, be diminished, but, as a large European force must be maintained in India for some years, he did not see how there could be a reduction of the military expenditure. He trusted that in the reconstruction of a native army there would be no native artillery.

MR. ORAWFORD gave some details respecting Indian railways, showing that they were already highly remunerative.

MR. CARDWELL, with reference to railways in India, hoped the time was coming when the system of guarantees would be at an end.

SIR H. WILLOUGHBY suggested that the bill authorising this loan should contain a clause of appropriation, confining it to specific purposes.

MR. LOWE observed that means might be taken to bind the people more closely to us, which would enable us to reduce our military force in India. Land in that country failed to perform the functions it discharged everywhere else, because our land revenue system and onerous assessment left no property in the land. He protested strongly against the system of guarantees.

LORD STANLEY made a brief reply to objections, and answers to questions put to him. With respect to the responsibility of the Indian Exchequer alone for the debt of India, he explained what he had previously said as to the possible contingencies under which the Imperial Exchequer might incur a liability.

After some remarks by MR. KINNAIRD and Colonel SYKES, a resolution on which to found a bill was agreed to.

CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION.

On the order for the second reading of the Superannuation Bill, SIR H. WILLOUGHBY urged various objections to the measure, and wished to know what would be its effect upon the public finances. SIR S. NORTHGOTE stated that it was proposed to introduce certain amendments into the bill which would obviate some of the objections of Sir H. Willoughby. Upon the question of expense, he could not say exactly what it would amount to, but it was a matter that should not be looked at in a narrow view, as one of pounds, shillings, and pence. After some further discussion the bill was read a second time.

GOVERNMENT CHURCH-RATE PROPOSAL.

On Monday, the other orders of the day having been postponed,

MR. WALFORD called attention to certain papers relative to Church-rates laid on the table by her Majesty's command, stating that he was about to propose, on the part of the Government, what he considered a just, moderate, and reasonable settlement of this question, which he believed to be the only practicable mode of settling it. The law as it stood, he observed, was plain and clear; it imposed an obligation upon the parishioners of every parish to maintain the fabric of the parish church. On the other hand, he did not deny that the law had its inconveniences, arising from the changes wrought by time and circumstances. Premising that these rates were a charge upon property, or upon persons in respect to property, from time immemorial, he proceeded to examine the results obtained by the returns of 1852 and for the present year, whence it appeared that, while in 10,000 parishes the amounts contributed towards church fabrics by rate and by voluntary aid were nearly equal, the greater proportion of the landed proprietors liable to Church-rates were Churchmen; showing, he remarked, that the plea of conscience was not a strong plea. He then reviewed the various schemes which had been proposed from time to time to remedy the grievance complained of under the existing law, including the proposition of Sir G. Grey and that of Mr. Puller, pointing out the objections to which they were all, in his opinion, more or less liable. The result was as follows:—

PLANS TO BE REJECTED.

In the first place, I think we all agree to reject all the plans which would transfer the charge from the property now liable to it to any property which is not liable to it at present. (Hear.)

In the second place, I think we should agree to reject all plans which would attempt to throw the charge upon the public taxes of the country (Hear hear); because it would be acting contrary to the principle which seems now to be clearly recognised, that we shall not impose on the public taxation the burden of paying for any special religious obligations. (Hear.)

In the third place, I think we shall all agree to reject any plan—at least I think we shall most of us agree to reject any plan—which would attempt to transfer from the landowners of the country to the revenues of the Church, a charge which the land has always paid, and I think ever would willingly pay, instead of drying up those resources still left in the Church, by means of which you may provide for the spiritual wants of the people, which are not at this moment more than sufficient to meet the wants to the extent required.

In the fourth place, I think we should all reject all plans which, like those proposed by Sir William Clay—by the way, I omitted mentioning the proposition which he made to the House—but I think we should reject all plans like the one proposed by Sir William Clay, for attempting, as the substitute for those Church-rates, the payment by means of pew-rents. (Hear, hear.) Of all the plans ever yet devised that is the most objectionable. If that means anything, it means a church, which in every town, in every parish, in every village, in the kingdom, ought to be free and open to all (Hear, hear), which is that part of your Establishment in connexion with the other part of your system, namely, the payment of the tithes which ought to furnish every poor man in the country who wishes to receive it the blessings of the ordinances of religion, should be open only on payment for seats. (Hear, hear.) Whoever may produce that plan again I hope it will meet with the condemnation which I find by your cheers it receives now, and that Parliament will never agree to it or listen to it.

In the fifth place, I would exclude one other plan, and that is the plan which would declare that Church-rates were abolished on the success of an agitation. We are attempting to settle the question peaceably; not by a resort to strife and disorder. If you can make a peaceful settlement do it; but if you attempt a settlement which is only to increase existing agitation and strife it would be infinitely better to remain as you are than to attempt such a settlement in such a way. I have now nearly exhausted every plan. (Hear, hear, and a laugh.)

THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSITION.

There are, however, two which may yet be mentioned. There is the proposition of the right hon. baronet of the repeal of the mortmain laws, and a resort to voluntary contributions. There is also a means of giving relief to those who are no longer of the same religion as that of the Church without injuring them, and without injuring the Church. And it is upon these two cases that the Government intend to rest their measure.

In the first place, then, we propose that powers should be given to the owners of land, notwithstanding the mortmain laws, to charge their lands with the amount of Church-rates which those lands have hitherto paid, within a period to be specified in the bill.

In the second place, we propose, since that charge has existed upon property from time immemorial, that those who have limited estates in their lands should have the power of making that perpetual which is now annual. In other words, we propose to give the power of charging those lands not merely to owners of fee, but to tenants for life.

In the third place, in order that the charges thereby imposed upon property should not be wasted, we

propose to make the incumbent and churchwardens of every parish a corporation for the purpose, with perpetual succession.

In the fourth place, we propose to aid those rent-charges by encouraging voluntary subscriptions and donations.

In the fifth place, we propose that those subscriptions and benefactions should, at the will of the donors, be not merely kept as a fund in aid of the charge for the sustentation of the church, but also that those who contribute them should have the power of declaring that they will apply those subscriptions and those benefactions in exoneration of other lands not chargeable.

And lastly, we propose, in reference to this part of the subject, that when the charges so put upon property voluntarily, when the income from the subscriptions and benefactions so made voluntarily, shall, together, equal the amount of the Church-rate which has been raised in any parish within a certain number of years from the time when the rate was last raised, the Queen shall be empowered by order in council to declare that the rates in that parish are to be abolished. I stop here for one moment. You will observe by this, the first part of our proposition, that we do not abandon that legal obligation which rests upon property to answer the debts to which that property is liable, but encourage the payment of that debt in a voluntary manner, and as soon as the payment is made complete Church-rates are for ever swept away in that parish. In other words, you have the compulsory payment done away with, and a voluntary payment supplied in its place.

WILL LANDLORDS CONSENT TO TAX THEMSELVES?

Now, I know there are many persons who think that these voluntary charges will not be made, or the voluntary subscriptions and benefactions paid. Let me say a word or two upon each of these points. I told you at the commencement of these observations, speaking from the analysis of the returns of the number of Churchmen generally who are landowners in the parishes which have made these returns. I told you also how little their properties were subdivided. Take these two facts together, and can you believe that the landlords, being Churchmen, will not impose this charge upon their properties which, after all, is only a substitute for that which they now pay? Can you believe that they will refuse to do that which will, in point of fact, put an end to a strife that they desire should cease as much as any of us do? (Hear, hear.) My impression is that the 8,000 landowners in these 10,000 parishes, most of them being Churchmen, will instantly charge their property to the extent of the Church-rate, so that that fund will be always sufficient for the repair of the church. But I own I set more store even upon voluntary subscriptions and benefactions, for I believe when they are made there are many who will come forward to relieve their poorer fellow parishioners by exonerating their lands from the payment that is now imposed upon them.

ADEQUACY OF THE VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLE.

I am not now speaking from mere conjecture; but I wish the House to bear this in mind that the voluntary contributions made in behalf of the Church during the last fifty years, and especially during the last ten years, are enough to encourage us in a plan like the one I propose. Is the House aware that, from 1800 to 1850, there has been contributed by the State for Church purposes about 1,600,000*l.* in money, and that to meet the grants so made by the State voluntary contributions to the extent of nearly 9,000,000*l.* of money have been offered for the benefit of religion? Is the House aware that 10,000*l.* is yearly applied by Queen Anne's bounty for the benefit of the Church, is consideration of the benefactions made to meet it, and that four times that amount, 40,000*l.* a year, is contributed in that manner to meet the grants from Queen Anne's Bounty? In the diocese of Winchester alone 200,000*l.* has been contributed by the Church for Church purposes, and it has been met by benefactions voluntarily offered to the extent of 1,500,000*l.* (Hear, hear.) And if I were to give you one or two other facts I know I should be confirmed by my right hon. friend the member for Carlisle (Sir J. Graham), for he and I took a deep interest in the subject when we sat on the ecclesiastical commission; and Mr. Gally Knight gave 37,000*l.* to be applied by the commissioners for the benefit of the Church. That sum the commissioners did apply so as to increase it to the largest amount, by asking for benefactions to meet the contributions which they made. The 37,000*l.* was employed in the erection of parsonage houses, and was met by voluntary offerings to the extent of four times the amount (hear, hear). The last fact upon this subject is that to which I alluded just now—namely, the fact that when the ecclesiastical commissioners found themselves with a surplus they took the hint from the good produced by these voluntary contributions to meet public grants, and determined on applying their surplus only in consideration of voluntary benefactions being made to meet them. What was the result? In 1857 their surplus was 5,000*l.*, and they were enabled to make grants for the augmentation of small livings to the extent of 12,000*l.* In 1858 their surplus was 18,000*l.* I speak in the presence of my hon. friend the member for East Kent (Mr. Deedes), and I believe I do not understate it when I say that they were enabled to grant 50,000*l.* for that purpose. This year the surplus is nearly 50,000*l.*, and I am credibly informed that it is likely to be met by cent. per cent. of voluntary contributions (Hear, hear). Now, if this be so I think you have everything to encourage you in trying to apply the voluntary principle in aid of the Establishment, so as to get rid of the burden of Church-rates.

RELEASE OF OCCUPIERS OF LAND.

But this is not all. By another clause in the bill we propose, with reference to contracts to be hereafter made, to enable the tenant or occupier of land to deduct any church rate that may be made in respect of such land from the rent payable for the same to his landlord; in other words, to transfer to the man who is legally bound to pay the rate the actual duty of discharging the obligation and freeing the occupier. These, then, are two of the propositions that we have to offer to the house.

EXEMPTION OF DISSENTERS.

But these propositions would be incomplete unless we also met the only practical grievance that exists—namely, the grievance felt by the conscientious Dissenter. I am one of those who think that the claim of the Dissenter to be exempted from the payment of a charge resting upon his property, strictly speaking,

stands neither upon reason nor law. I am one of those who think that if you admit the principle in this instance you must also admit it in reference to the general taxation of the country; and that the objection of members of the Society of Friends to the application of the public revenues to warlike purposes would be made upon equally conscientious grounds. I am one of those who think that, once you admit that principle, you could not deny to other persons, such as Protestants who have charges upon their property in favour of the Roman Catholic religion, or Roman Catholics who have charges upon their property in favour of a religion from which they dissent—you could not refuse to them, upon the plea of conscience, the same benefit that you ask for the Dissenter in the matter of Church-rates. This claim, therefore, on behalf of the Dissenters, is one to which I could not consent as a matter of strict right. But when I regard the circumstances under which these rates were originally imposed; when I know the fact that all persons in the country were at that time of one mind in matters of religion; when I remember that they had the benefit of the rate as well as made themselves subject to the obligation to pay it; and when I further recollect that all these things are so much altered that the benefit and the obligation do not go together, I will not say that the Dissenter has a claim to exemption from the Church-rate as a matter of right; but I will say that the Churchman may, as a matter of favour and good feeling, extend to the Dissenter an exoneration from the obligation to make a payment from which he derives no benefit. (Hear, hear.) That being so, I am perfectly willing to subscribe to the amendment proposed by Sir William Page Wood in the first instance, on the motion made by Dr. Phillimore, and supported by every man of eminence in this House. I am perfectly willing, if it can be done without hurting the feelings of the Dissenter, to say to those who conscientiously object to the payment of the rate, I will not burden your consciences, but grant you relief on your making a declaration that you dissent from the Established Church. To this measure the Dissenters objected that it ticketed and branded them with the stigma of dissent. Now, that, I think, was a most unfortunate remark; for I should have thought that the historical descendants of the old Nonconformists—the successors of those who were proud of avowing their opinions openly and frankly, and were not ashamed to suffer for those opinions—would never, whilst you were offering to relieve their consciences by exempting them from a legal obligation, have turned round upon you and said that you meant to offer them an insult. (Hear, hear.) It is our duty, however, to see if we cannot so frame this exemption as not to hurt or wound their feelings. And we hope to do it in this way. We propose that when the rate has been made the collector should take about with him certain papers, one of which shall contain this simple form of words, to be signed by Dissenters:—

I conscientiously object to pay this rate.

And we propose that the person who makes this declaration shall be exempt, and that for that time he shall be free from the payment of the charge. But, as a consequence of this, we also think that any person who claims the benefit of exemption from the obligation should take no part in the vestry meeting, which is to consider subsequently the question whether a rate is to be imposed or not, unless he consents to, and has paid some rate before he claims the exercise of that privilege. (Hear, hear.)

Comparing his own proposal with that of Sir John Trelawny, Mr. Walpole said—

If you adopt the proposition of the hon. baronet opposite (Sir J. Trelawny) you will, in point of fact, be asking Parliament to sanction the proposition that we should give up without a substitute a legal obligation which has been imposed, not upon your property, but the property of those who first imposed it, and subject to which you obtained it to maintain the fabric of the Established Church. (Hear, hear.) Everybody in this country is entitled to the ordinances of religion. Give up that right, and you will not be able to distinguish between Church-rates and tithes in principle; and you must give up the obligations similarly imposed to provide for the ministers of religion throughout the land. (Hear, hear.) Give up that and you give up the religious part of your parochial system; you give up the existence of an Establishment; you sever the connexion between the Church and the State. ("Hear, hear," from the Radical benches.) Yes, that cheer proves to me that there are some—though I believe they are few—who would wish to sever that connexion. (Hear, hear.) There are those I know, who would trust everything to the voluntary principle. (Hear, hear.) And I, also, would trust the voluntary principle, taken in aid of, and in conjunction with, the provisions made by the State; but taken alone, I am confident it never can and never will reach every part of the country. (Hear, hear.) It never can penetrate the remote and more distant districts. It never can meet the wants of those dense populations which even now do not enjoy the benefit of religious ordinances to the extent they ought. There are those who support the voluntary principle because they think it will answer all purposes ("Hear, hear," from Mr. Hadfield), and believe that religion is to be supplied just as anything else is supplied (another cheer from Mr. Hadfield, followed by loud laughter). The hon. member for Sheffield is one of those who, possessing immense confidence in their own principles, do not always extend to others the same confidence with regard to the sincerity of their convictions which they claim for themselves. (Hear, hear.) But I will put it to the hon. member for Sheffield whether even he can apply the rules which ordinarily regulate the acquisition and distribution of wealth to the higher matters of religion and education? (Hear, hear.) By his nodding his head (laughter) I suppose he thinks he can (renewed laughter); but let me tell him that, as long as you have to provide for the social and physical wants of man you will always find a sufficient desire to meet the demand; but when you deal with the higher part of our nature the reverse is, always has been, and always must be the case. (Hear, hear.) The more ignorant a man is the less he will desire the advantages of knowledge; the more deeply he is sunk in vice the more opposed will he be to the benefits of religion. It is for that reason that Dr. Chalmers said, in his own fine language, "Christianity must go forth in quest of human nature, for human nature, unprovided and uninstructed, will never go forth in quest of Christianity." (Cheers.) Therefore it is that, in accordance with your institutions, you have always insisted upon providing, by means of an establishment, for religion and religious ordinances;

and I contend that you ought not now to give them up unless you are sure that you will get a substitute. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Walpole concluded by moving for leave to bring in a bill embodying the plan.

Sir J. TRELAWNY acknowledged the conciliatory tone adopted by Mr. Walpole. He suggested that the Government should allow his bill to pass the second reading on Wednesday *pro forma*, and that, in the meantime, the measure of the right hon. gentleman should be submitted to the country in the shape of the bill itself. The House would then be enabled to judge of the practical details of the measure, and hon. members be prepared to express their opinions upon it. He could not, however, be expected to give up the advantage which he possessed of standing first on the paper next Wednesday. (Hear, hear.) He would now make two or three observations upon some of the remarks which had fallen from the right hon. gentleman. He had said that the abolition of the Church-rates would be a mere transfer of property to the landlords. But he forgot what the noble lord his own leader had done in the case of the Irish Church; he succeeded in transferring one-fourth of the revenues of that church to the pockets of the Irish landlord. And, with regard to the abolition of Church-rates in Ireland, the right hon. gentleman seemed also to forget entirely that Irish church property was applied to the objects of the vestry less now. The question of principle was entirely done with. There were several other propositions in the speech of the right hon. gentleman to which he objected. As to the rates that were levied he reminded the House that many of them were illegal. Nine-tenths were illegal. The right hon. gentleman proposed to make churchwardens and incumbents a corporation. He had very great doubts about this part of the bill. It would place incumbents in a very disadvantageous position with respect to rates; and he thought it very desirable, in making changes, to make as little alteration as possible in the existing institutions of the county. (Hear, hear.) He did not see any merit in this alteration. With regard to ticketing Dissenters, as it was called, he disapproved of it.

Sir G. GREY would not express an opinion upon the plan until he saw the bill in print, to which he was prepared to give a fair and candid consideration. He drew conclusions from the returns somewhat different from Mr. Walpole's, and did not quite accord with him on the subject of pew-rents.

He held in his hand the return of the receipts and expenditure under the head of Church-rates in 1854, and he found that in that year the whole amount received on that account was 314,000*l.* The return to which the right hon. gentleman had referred did not give the facts for any particular year, but an average was struck of the last seven years, 1858 being the last year. The average receipts showed a diminution, for they amounted to only 248,830*l.*; and if about 600 parishes were added which had made no return, the amount was only increased to 262,000*l.* a year. There was, therefore, in this return clear evidence that Church-rates were a perpetually and a rapidly diminishing amount, especially as it might fairly be assumed that the last year of the average would be much below it.

Mr. WALFORD intimated that the addition of the 500 parishes would cause rather a greater addition to the totals than the right hon. baronet had stated.

Sir G. GREY said that though the gross totals might be altered, the proportion would remain the same. The returns, indeed, showed the amount of Church-rates to be so rapidly diminishing, that he believed if Parliament were to abstain from doing anything, legislation would become practically useless. Then the right hon. gentleman spoke eloquently with regard to the burdens to which property was liable in maintaining the fabrics of the Church; but what were the facts according to the present returns? Why, that while Church-rates had been diminishing, as he had shown, the expenditure derived from voluntary sources had been rapidly increasing, showing that there was no diminution in the zeal of the people to do all that was necessary for the maintenance of the fabrics for Divine worship. Looking at the elasticity of the voluntary principle as applied to this subject, he could not share the apprehension, that even if Church-rates were absolutely abolished the churches would fall into ruin. He believed they would be maintained in perfect repair; but it would be a harsh and an arbitrary act to say to the numerous parishes, the vestries of which were willing to tax themselves for this purpose, that they should not be admitted to have the power.

Mr. BALL said he considered that the proposal of the Government was one which deserved being taken into consideration by that House. This was a question which had long been before them, and he would put it to the House whether the plan proposed by the Secretary of the Home Department was not the one most likely to bring about a settlement of the subject. (Hear, hear.)

Sir A. ELTON regretted that Mr. Walpole had not boldly at once put an end to Church-rates, which, in his opinion, would have quickened voluntary contributions and benefactions, even in the lower strata of society. He approved the exclusion of Dissenters from vestry meetings upon Church matters.

Mr. PACKE said it was gratifying to find from all sides of the House every disposition to give a favourable consideration to the project of the right hon. gentleman the Secretary of State.

Sir G. LEWIS said he agreed that the House should be in full possession of the plan of the Government before discussion, and he therefore asked whether it was intended that the present vestries (consisting of occupiers) should cease, and the vestries in future should consist of landowners; and what would be done where the property was held by more than one landlord.

Mr. BERESFORD HOPE also expressed his satisfaction at the measure which had been announced by the Government.

Lord J. RUSSELL said he thought the measure was framed in a most conciliatory spirit; but, with respect to that part of it which relieved from the payment of Church-rates those who had conscientious scruples, it seemed to him that it changed the character of the Church of England, and did not maintain it as a national Church:—

Now, it has always seemed to me that the defence of an Established Church must stand upon the ground, not that it is of immediate and direct benefit to those only who attend its services and hear the preachings of its ministers, but that it is of general benefit to the community at large (Hear, hear). I have always considered that, placing in every parish a clergyman, who is not only to preach the Gospel, but who is to hold out an example of religion and morality; who is to tell the people what are the moral precepts inculcated by the Founder of Christianity; who is to superintend and foster the schools in which the youth of each district are educated; who, upon every occasion when Christian charity can be enforced, is ready to minister to the wants of the poor and deserving—I have always considered that to be a benefit not to Churchmen exclusively, but to all those who dissent from his religious tenets as well as to those who agree with them. (Hear, hear.) I have always thought that an important public advantage is gained by establishing in every parish a minister of the Gospel, independent of personal caprice, independent of private generosity, independent of the resources of the inhabitants. That is not an original view of mine—it is one which I have only borrowed from men of much greater wisdom than I can pretend to possess. But entertaining that opinion, I cannot help asking what reason is there in saying to a man—"You, as a Churchman, derive an advantage from the Church, because you go there on the Sunday and attend Divine service, but your neighbour, who is a Dissenter, receives no benefit from it because he does not assist at its ministrations." It appears to me that that is placing the expediency of maintaining an Established Church on too narrow and too low a ground. It is true that this is not the argument of the right hon. gentleman, but that is the tendency of his proposal, because it is obvious that when you tell one man he is to pay for the Church because he derives a benefit from it, while you tell another man that he is not to pay because he does not receive a similar return, you no longer maintain the Church as a national establishment; you maintain it, if you will, as a powerful Church, or as a State Church, or as a wealthy Church—nay, as a Church that is diffusing religion and morality throughout the land—but still you only maintain it as the strongest sect in the community. (Hear, hear.) I therefore cannot but consider—although the right hon. gentleman I dare say differs from me upon that point—I cannot but consider that when Lord Derby placed on the revenues of the Church in Ireland the repairs of the churches in that country, for which provision had formerly been made from the Church cess, he adopted a measure much better calculated to maintain the Established Church than if he had taken the course which is now pursued by the right hon. gentleman.

Let me observe further that if Parliament should be of opinion that Church-rates could not be retained, and if they should therefore be abolished, you would at least in that way put an end to all the dissension and ill blood to which this question has given rise, and you might still maintain the churches, although, perhaps, not so well as you have hitherto done; but here you wish to go to forty or fifty farmers in a parish, and some twenty of them are not to pay Church-rates because they have a conscientious objection to the tax, while the other thirty are to go on paying Church-rates in an aggravated form, inasmuch as the sum required should be raised from a smaller number of people. (Hear, hear.) Now it may be the fault of human nature if those farmers should feel any discontent upon that account; but I cannot help thinking, that many of them would say—"This is very unfair; there is my neighbour, who has hitherto paid Church-rates for what we all thought a common benefit, but now he is to be relieved from the charge, and I have to pay more on that account. The Legislature has acted unjustly towards me, and I do not think that I shall myself go on much longer contributing to this fund." That is one consequence that may arise from the passing of this measure.

And, in addition, when I hear the hon. gentleman the member for Cambridgeshire (Mr. Ball) state that the Dissenters would hardly be satisfied if, in consequence of their not paying Church-rates, they were not to be admitted to the vestry in which those questions are discussed, I cannot but think that you will not put an end to all ill blood upon this subject while you exclude the Dissenters from the parish vestry, and thereby create a distinction which was never before established; and let it also be remembered that in making it, you will have deprived your Church of the character of a National Church. It appears to me that these considerations are of no small value.

I believe further, that if we should pass this bill—which is perhaps the very best thing that we could do after all—(loud cries of "Hear, hear")—for it is, perhaps, the best resource we have amidst the difficulties by which the question is surrounded—I believe that if we should pass it, Church-rates will, in a very few years cease to exist in any shape whatsoever. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MELLOR asked what would be done with regard to those towns where Church-rates were not levied.

Mr. D. GRIFFITHS reminded the House that Dissenters entirely ignored the Established Church, and in dealing with any measure for the settlement of the question, that was a fact that must be considered.

Mr. ALDERMAN CUBITT hoped the bill would have a fair chance, and that by means of it they would be able to get rid of this most annoying question. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HADFIELD rose to express his dissent. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) The House had by a great majority declared against Church-rates—the majority of ratepayers could refuse a Church-rate by law—and why was all the machinery provided by this bill to be put in force against those who, under the present law, could absolve themselves from payment of it. Could it be supposed that Dissenters

in large communities would stand by and see without concern a Church-rate imposed upon their weaker brethren in the rural districts. He was rather surprised at the right hon. gentleman mistaking a hearty cheer he had given him. (Laughter.) It appeared from his statement that the church could do the very thing the Dissenters do—they could pay their own expenses. The right hon. gentleman said that 3,000*l.* had been paid by churchmen for the repair of churches. He (Mr. H.) hoped the members of the church would further carry out that principle. (Hear, hear.) The parish church, they should bear in mind, was alone the object of the aid; the chapels of ease did not ask for, and were not entitled to, any of the rates. So that when they deducted from the 15,000 established churches the 5,000 which were chapels of ease, and for which no rate could be imposed, and then, again, deducted from the 10,000 parish churches the 2,000 where the rates were refused, they would find that only some 8,000 had any rates. He thought they should take a lesson from the fact that the churches where there were no rates, whether chapels of ease or dissenting chapels, were invariably those which were kept in the best repair. He ventured to say that the maximum sum which they extracted from England, Dissenters included, in the shape of Church-rates, was only 150,000*l.*; and he thought for very shame the denomination for whom that rate was imposed should consent to give it up. He pointed out, in conclusion, as a serious defect in the bill, that it proposed to suspend the Mortmain Act in a partial manner. He considered that that Act required complete revision, and he could not consent that it should be suspended for one part of her Majesty's subjects instead of being applied equally to all.

Sir BROOK BRYDGES, in correction of a statement of an hon. member, remarked that the best authorities held the Church-rates not to be chargeable on the land, but on the occupiers.

Mr. WALPOLE replied to questions and objections. It was the intention of the Government, he said, not to interfere with the existing law unnecessarily, and therefore to leave the law unaltered in respect to the places referred to by Mr. Mellor. He thought there were two good reasons why they should not do so.

The first was that, if by altering the law they would not give an opportunity to those places to obey the law which had formerly disobeyed it, instances having occurred already where they wished to change their mind; and the second was that no hardship could occur by leaving the law as it was, in those places where rates had not been levied, a majority could consider, and probably do so, as they had done heretofore, that when voluntary contributions were made, the rate should not be compulsorily imposed; while, by leaving the law as it was, they held out an inducement to encourage voluntary contributions for the purpose of supporting the Established Church.

With regard to the clause of the bill which enabled tenant and occupier to charge the rate as against the landlord, he omitted to mention the subsequent clause in the bill, which provides that in the case of the tenant deducting the amount of Church-rates from the rent, the voice in the vestry which belonged to him should be transferred with the payment of the rates to the landlord.

It had also been asked whether he proposed, in giving exemption to the conscientious objection entertained to the payment of the rate on the part of a Dissenter, to extend the exemption to the land, or only to the person, and to that he had to reply, certainly only to the person, and only during the year for which the rate was levied. For he thought they ought not to prevent those who had conscientious objections to the payment of the rate, coming back again to the Church itself, as they might, perhaps, do; and he thought also, when they had been so relieved from the rate for one year, it was only reasonable that he should give them the opportunity of saying whether they would pay the rate in future.

A more serious objection to the measure was that which came from the member for the City of London (Lord John Russell), who had been a most consistent opponent of the abolition of Church-rates, and who now thought there was a violation of the principle of the establishment in the proposition now before the House. It could not be argued that the exemption of a man from the payment of the rate was a violation of the principle of the establishment, unless that principle amounted to this, that they could require from those who did not belong to the Church the compulsory payment of the particular sum. He thought, therefore, the noble lord had pressed a little unduly when he argued that this measure gave up a great principle; and, at the end of his speech, he seemed to admit that the difficulties were so complicated and insurmountable that either this proposition must be accepted, or things must remain as they were now. Surely, if there was nothing wrong in principle in what he (Mr. Walpole) submitted, it was better to have the question settled in this way than to allow it to continue in so unsatisfactory a condition as at present.

He agreed with the noble lord in thinking that if this bill passed Church-rates would be at an end, not because it would be impossible any longer to levy them, but because their place will be taken by the voluntary contributions of those who belong to the Church. In conclusion, he hoped the hon. baronet, the member for Tavistock (Sir J. Trelawny), would consent to have the second reading of his bill fixed for Monday next in the orders for the day to this measure, so that they might both be discussed at once.

Sir JOHN TRELAUNY consented to the arrangement proposed.

Leave was then given Mr. Walpole to introduce a bill on the subject of Church-rates.

IRISH BILLS.

On the order for the second reading of the Markets (Ireland) Bill, Mr. M'CAHON and Mr. M'CANN opposed the bill upon various grounds. Mr. KIRK thought the bill should be permissive, not compulsory, though he should not oppose it. Lord NAAS defended the bill, and read from the report of

a commission an account of the frauds and abuses practised in Irish markets, evils which called for legislative interference, and which the bill was intended to remedy. After further discussion, in which Mr. Cogan, Mr. Whiteside, Mr. H. Herbert, and Mr. Spaight took part, the bill was read a second time.

On the order for the second reading of the Lunatic Poor (Ireland) Bill, Mr. BAGWELL moved that the bill be referred to a select committee. The debate which followed related almost entirely to the machinery and details of the measure, especially whether the control should be given to the grand jury. Lord NAAS said the principle of the bill was the substitution of local for Government control, under a vigilant system of inspection, and its provisions substantially would remedy the evil brought out by the report of the Commissioners. The bill was read a second time, the proposal to refer it to a select committee being withdrawn.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. GILPIN has given notice that on an early day he shall move, "That in the opinion of this House it is expedient that the Government monopoly of opium should cease, and that the growth of that poison, except for medicinal purposes, should be prohibited in the Presidency of Bengal, as it now is in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay."

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated on Thursday that arrangements had been made with Austria for laying a telegraphic cable between Ragusa, in the Adriatic, and Alexandria; the cable to be laid by the Austrian Government, and a conditional guarantee to be given by this country. The communication with India will be much expedited by the additional line.

Mr. M. MILNES gave notice that on Friday, on the motion for adjournment, he should call attention to the appointment of the consul and vice-consul in Japan, in connexion with the evidence and report of the Committee on the Consular Service.

A bill has been introduced by Mr. M'Cann and Mr. William Brown to provide for the sale of grain, meal, flour, butter, and potatoes, and other agricultural produce, from the 1st of January next, by the pound avoirdupois, the score of 20*lb.*, the cental of 100*lb.*, and the ton of 2,000*lb.*

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

The result of the election for Marylebone excites considerable interest. The nomination takes place this day. Colonel Romilly appears to have enlisted the sympathies of the large mass of the leading members of Lord Ebrington's and Mr. Jacob Bell's Committees in his favour. In addressing a meeting of electors, Colonel Romilly avowed Radical opinions. With respect to religious questions he considered that no person ought to be subject to any civil disability on account of his religious belief, and no one ought to be subject to compulsory taxation to support religion; and, applying these principles, he was therefore an advocate for the entire abolition of Church-rates. (Loud applause.) At another meeting, he stated that he would not support a franchise which required as the only qualification that a party should have obtained the age of twenty-one. (Hisses and counter-demonstration.) He would ardently support any franchise in which intelligence was combined with property. An amendment was proposed by some person in the gallery, to the effect that Colonel Romilly's declaration of political opinion was not satisfactory to the electors of Marylebone, inasmuch as he was not prepared to vote for residential manhood suffrage and vote by ballot. The amendment was lost upon a show of hands, and amid considerable uproar the original resolution was put and declared to be carried. Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., is now fairly in the field. In his address he says:—

I would advocate a large and liberal extension of the franchise. To the free and uncontrolled exercise of such franchise the ballot is essential; and that system of voting should have my most strenuous support. The revenues of the Established Church, well administered, are ample to maintain its efficiency; and those who conscientiously dissent from its tenets should not be taxed for its support. I would support a measure for the total, unconditional, and immediate repeal of the Church-rates. I would advocate the strictest economy in the public expenditure, consistent with the necessity of maintaining the honour of England and her dignity among the nations of Europe.

The nomination for East Worcestershire took place at Droitwich, on Saturday. The candidates were the Hon. Frederick H. W. G. Calthorpe, son of Lord Calthorpe, in the Liberal interest, and Mr. J. S. Pakington, only son of the First Lord of the Admiralty, and, of course, a supporter of the present Government. The excitement which the contest has occasioned arrived at its climax on Saturday, and the proceedings were of a very noisy character. Mr. Calthorpe, in the course of his address, said:—

He would not give his support to the ballot, believing it would not be in practice what it was in theory. He believed, however, that the ballot would tend to prevent some of that coercion and pressure which he had seen in this contest (cries of "Lord Ward"), and which pressure was against him, and not on his side. It was an easy matter for a landlord to coerce some fifty or sixty of his workmen, but when the franchise was extended, numbers alone would baffle them. (Cheers.) He would, therefore, wait and see what would be the extension of the suffrage, and if he then found it necessary, he would no longer oppose the ballot. (Cheers and uproar.) But at present he must regard it as a most serious evil, and a measure which would tend to induce among the people a disregard for truth and truthfulness. With respect to the question of Church-rates, he had already told them he should vote for their entire abolition. He

believed the question was nearly settled already, as the House of Commons on more than one occasion had, by large majorities, opposed it. He thought the Dissenters, with their 6,000 chapels and places of worship and their schools, which they supported by voluntary contributions, ought not to be called to pay to the support of a rich church, which, with its enormous income, ought to be able of itself to raise so paltry a sum as 300,000. He believed the clergy themselves, after a few years' experience of total abolition, would be sorry to return to the old exploded system.

Mr. Pakington then addressed the electors, but amid much interruption. His principles were, he said, Liberal Conservative.

As to Reform, I am not going, like Mr. Bright, to put before the public a Reform Bill of my own (cheers and uproar), but I am ready to consider a Liberal Reform measure whenever it may come before Parliament. (A Voice.—"Will you support a 10s. county franchise?") I distinctly refuse to pledge myself to anything of that sort. (Cheers and hisses.) I have already told you that I had no idea of proposing a Reform Bill myself, but I am ready to consider a bill brought forward by others. As to the ballot, you have heard what Mr. Calthorpe has said, and I hope it has been satisfactory to you (a laugh); but, whether he is going to vote for the ballot, or whether he is not, I can't make out. (Hear, hear.) But I will not support the ballot whenever I may have the opportunity of voting against it. (Loud cheers.) I must here repeat my most emphatic denial of an attack which has been made upon me about Puseyism. ("Hear, hear," and uproar.)

A show of hands was then taken, and was declared to be in favour of Mr. Calthorpe; upon which a poll was demanded for Mr. Pakington.

The nomination of candidates for Enniskillen, in the room of Mr. J. Whiteside, resigned, took place on Thursday. The names proposed were Paul Dane, Esq., Hon. John Lowry Cole, John Collum, Esq., H. M. Darcey, Esq., W. A. Dale, Esq. The show of hands was in favour of the Hon. John Lowry Cole. Mr. Cole was returned by a majority of thirty-six votes over Mr. Collum. The seat for Bury St. Edmund's, held for the long period of twenty-eight years by the Earl Jermyn, who is a Liberal Conservative, is rendered vacant by his succession to the Marquisate of Bristol. Although no candidate has openly avowed himself, there is little doubt that Lord Alfred Hervey, formerly M.P. for Brighton, and brother of the present marquis, will address the electors as a candidate in a few days; and that in the present unsettled state of the political world no opposition will be offered to his return.

Mr. W. Brown, M.P., who recently intimated that, at the close of the present session, he should retire from the representation of South Lancashire, has, in consequence of numerous requests that he would continue, for some time at least, to hold his seat, revoked his previous intention.

The election for the West Riding took place on Monday at Wakefield, Sir John Ramsden being returned without opposition. Sir John delivered a long speech, in which he recapitulated his political opinions. He would not pledge himself to support any particular measures of Reform.

VOTE BY BALLOT.

On Wednesday evening the Parliamentary and other members of the Society for the Promotion of the Adoption of Vote by Ballot had a public dinner at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. About 120 gentlemen in all sat down to the banquet. The Hon. H. F. Berkeley, M.P., presided, and there were also present—Mr. Wyld, M.P., Mr. Nicoll, M.P., Sir J. V. Shelley, M.P., Mr. J. Locke, M.P., Mr. White, M.P., General Thompson, M.P., Mr. Cox, M.P., Admiral Sir C. Napier, M.P., Sir J. L. Lillie, Mr. S. M. Greer, M.P., Colonel Sykes, M.P., Mr. Ayrton, M.P., Mr. Serjeant Gaselee, Mr. Serjeant Woolrych, with gentlemen from Manchester, Birmingham, Glasgow, Nottingham, &c.

The usual loyal toasts having been given and duly responded to, the CHAIRMAN gave "the Army and Navy."

General THOMPSON, M.P., returned thanks for the former branch of the service, and after alluding to a great variety of general topics, concluded by expressing his opinion that the country was in a most defenceless condition, and that there were 12,000,000 in the Bank almost entirely unprotected, and calling attention to what prize money that sum would give among the first 100,000 men who could seize it.

Sir C. NAPIER, in responding for the Navy, took an almost equally gloomy view of the condition of the country, asserting that there was nothing to prevent an invasion of England. The French, he said, possessed 180 steam vessels in their commercial marine, and at least 150 steamers in their navy. England, it was true, possessed many more than this; but what was there to prevent the Emperor of the French from laying an embargo on all the vessels in his ports, using them as transports for his troops, and in a fortnight from such a time all his fleet might anchor in the Portland Roads.

Letters of regret that prior engagements prevented their attendance were then read from Lords Stanley, and Durham, while the letters which were also read from Sir B. Hall, Mr. Villiers, M.P., Mr. Milner Gibson, M.P., and Mr. Sharman Crawford, not only only expressed their regret at non-attendance, but their cordial good wishes on behalf of the cause of the ballot. The following letter was also read from Mr. Bright amid much applause:—

Rochdale, Feb. 15, 1859.

My dear Sir,—I am very sorry that I am not able to be in town this week, and that I cannot be present at your meeting to-morrow, to show how much I unite with you and our other friends in opinion in favour of the ballot. Of the early success of your labours I do

not doubt. The Great Reform party in the three kingdoms is unanimous as to the necessity and justice of the Ballot, and without it any extension of the franchise will be felt by multitudes to be an evil rather than a privilege to be prized.

The Reform party is a Ballot party, and any attempt to give satisfaction without the Ballot must fail.

Your association has been of great service, and I hope you will continue your labours till your object is accomplished.

Believe me, very sincerely yours,

JOHN BRIGHT.

Edward C. Whitehurst, Esq. London.

The CHAIRMAN, in his opening speech, said he looked upon the question of the ballot, as a fast rising one. It had the support of—some active and some, perhaps, more passive—237 members of the House of Commons. (Cheers.) That was a vast phalanx, and it had been said by persons who were better acquainted with such matters than himself, that a smaller number of united men could carry any question. (Cheers.) As regarded the union of the Liberal party the less they said about that the better (laughter), but he did not think that that reproach attached to those gentlemen who advocated the ballot, for he was sure they were all united on that question. (Cheers.) He concluded by giving "Vote by Ballot, the chief requisite of all Parliamentary Reform."

The toast was drunk with the usual honours.

Mr. BARNARD proposed "The 237 Members of Parliament who supported the Ballot," and urged upon the members of the society present the necessity for uniting upon such a question, and making it one independent of Governments, and one to be pressed alike upon the consideration of all. (Cheers.)

Sir J. V. SHELLEY returned thanks on the part of the members of the House. In reference to the Ministerial Reform Bill, he said he, for one, did not believe in the promise of a permissive ballot, and thought all their expectations on that head would end in some mere dodge—(cheers)—in the way of voting papers, or some such paltry excuse. Voting papers might be all very well for the sick, the timid, or cripples, but such an expedient could render no service to the bone or healthy vigorous muscle of the country.

Mr. ROUFELL briefly proposed "The Council of the Ballot Society," to which Mr. J. White, M.P., responded.

Mr. WYLD, M.P., gave, "The Executive Committee of the Ballot Society." The toast was coupled with the name of Mr. Whitehurst, and drank with great applause.

Mr. WHITEHURST, in the course of his speech, said, as to the permissive ballot, they would take it if the adoption of the ballot was to be decided by the ballot. (Hear, hear.) If not, they would go on till they got the ballot pure and simple. (Hear, hear.) They would go on working as the Anti-Corn Law League did, in the counties as well as in the towns, and in Scotland as well as in England.

Mr. GREER, M.P., gave "The Ballot-Elected Parliaments of the Australian Colonies," which was responded to by Mr. WILSON (Melbourne), who said the adoption of the ballot in Australia had undoubtedly been a brilliant success. He had no hesitation in asserting that the system introduced by Mr. Nicholson did practically secure secrecy, and there had been not the slightest complaint of its failure, nor a single case in which a scrutiny had been demanded. (Cheers.)

Sir J. SCOTT LILLY proposed "The press which advocates the Ballot," coupled with the names of Dr. Gray, of Dublin, and Mr. Wilks, of Carlisle.

Mr. WILKS said—

The people out of doors wanted to know why, as the ballot had a working majority of the House in its favour, it was not carried. (Cheers.) If Lord Palmerston had as many supporters as the ballot, he would be Prime Minister at this hour. Hon. gentlemen seemed to think they had done enough in seconding the chairman's annual motion and going to a division; but people out of doors, with whom the ballot was a question of political life or death, wondered why they did not speak all night, or even a whole week, and refuse to support any Minister, on any question, till this was settled. (Loud cheers.) He warned hon. gentlemen that if they preferred to this question that of national defences, or anything else, they would be set down as mere dilettanti or worse. (Renewed Cheers.)

Mr. AYRTON, M.P., said that if his friend Mr. Wilks were inside the bar of the House he would find his enthusiasm chilled, and understand how hard it was to speak and divide against a hostile or lukewarm House.

The CHAIRMAN, in responding, replied at some length, and amid expression of dissent to the remarks that had been made on the Parliamentary conduct of this cause. The country would not support them in making this a standing or falling question. (Cries of "Yes, yes.") It was not possible to maintain a debate because there was nothing to answer. (Cries of "Oh, oh.") If the friends of the ballot were really desirous it should take precedence of all other questions, they should support the society, hold meetings, and send up petitions. (Cheers.)

THE HAVELock MONUMENT.—At a meeting of the Sunderland Town Council, on Monday, the Mayor said he had been requested some time ago to write to the Government for a contribution towards the Havelock Monument, in the shape of gun metal, for a colossal statue of eight feet. He had received an answer from the Lords of the Treasury, which stated that 420*l.* would be inserted in the estimates of the War Department, for the purpose of purchasing three tons and a half of gun metal, which would be placed at the disposal of the committee.—*Sunderland Times.*

THE REFORM QUESTION.

Next Monday Mr. Disraeli will introduce the Government Reform Bill.

A correspondent of the *Dublin Freeman's Journal* says that, some days after the introduction of the Reform Bill by Mr. Disraeli, a separate measure for Ireland will be introduced. The system of grouping will be applied, says this authority, to the measure in the same manner as with its English predecessor. A total of ten seats for re-distribution is thus made up:—Portarlington and Dungannon to be disfranchised; Coleraine, Enniskillen, Lisburne, Downpatrick, New Ross, Youghal, Kinsale, and Mallow are to be absorbed in new groups. Cork county is to be divided, and to return two additional members. Dublin city is to have one additional member. Kingstown, Dalkey, &c., will form a new Parliamentary borough, returning one member; and the counties Tipperary, Down, Galway, Mayo, Tyrone, and Antrim will return each three members instead of two, as at present. All the boroughs now returning one member (with the exception of Kilkenny, Londonderry, and Drogheda) will cease to have that privilege and will be formed into groups, for the purposes of Parliamentary representation.

The *Daily News* of Monday commences a leading article as follows:—

Rumours prevail to the effect that since Lord Derby and his colleagues agreed amongst themselves to a scheme of Reform calculated in their judgment to satisfy the reasonable demands of the country, they have been induced to reconsider certain of its provisions, with a view to disarm objection on the part of some of their more ultra-supporters. The story goes that, when tentatively sounded as to the propriety of reducing the annual amount of the occupation franchise in towns, a troublesome few of their adherents showed a disposition to demur; and that experience having long ago attested the utter inutility of argument with unreasoning beings of the stamp in question, Government have found themselves forced to balance the evils of spoiling the plan of Reform settled before Christmas or causing a new split in their already sorely-chipped and splintered party before Easter. We have no desire to investigate too closely the bases of these reports. There are those who say with grave and confident face that there is no foundation whatever for the story. They aver that all is unanimity throughout the camp, as well as within the general's tent; and that upon this day week Parliament will be presented with a project of electoral improvement to which not even Messrs. Bentinck and Newdegate will find any conscientious obligation to protest, and for which, nevertheless, the most querulous of their Whig rivals will be constrained to vote on the second reading. What may happen after that nobody seems at present to take serious thought.

The *Daily News* assumes that by the Government bill the town franchise will remain unaltered, but the county franchise reduced.

The *Morning Advertiser*, professing to be informed as to ministerial intentions, notices the following as likely to be among the provisions of the coming Reform Bill. 1st. The franchise to be regulated according to Sturges Bourne's Act, viz., a 6*l.* rental one vote, 12*l.* two votes, and 18*l.* three votes, to a certain number; 2ndly, forty boroughs to be disfranchised; and 3rdly, several densely populated districts to have the right to choose members conferred on them.

The enemies of Reform are busy. Mr. Austin, a Tory barrister, has brought out a pamphlet entitled "A Plea for the Constitution," in which he urges that Reform should be indefinitely postponed.

The petition in favour of Mr. Bright's scheme of Reform, adopted at the recent meeting of the inhabitants in Dunedin Hall, has been forwarded for presentation in the House of Commons by Mr. Caird. It has been signed by about 12,000 persons.—*Edinburgh Daily Express.*

SUPPRESSION OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

A public meeting of the United Kingdom Alliance for the suppression of the liquor traffic was held on Wednesday evening in Exeter Hall, which was crowded in every part. The chair was taken by the President of the Alliance, Sir Walter C. Trevelyan, Bart., who, after alluding to the social, moral, physical, and political evils of intemperance, said that it was the endeavour of the Alliance to introduce a bill into Parliament to suppress the sale of intoxicating liquors, and in order eventually to accomplish this, hoping that it would be attended with the most satisfactory results, they had well considered a scheme, the nature of which would be laid before them. The only resolution was as follows:—

That this meeting is of opinion, that the only satisfactory mode of dealing with the traffic in strong drink, is to empower the people, who are, both as to its supposed convenience and its real burdens, interested in its existence, to decide for themselves as to its necessity. That this meeting, therefore, earnestly recommends the insertion of a clause in the forthcoming Government measure, which will enable the ratepayers of a given district to veto any licensing of publichouses and beer-shops within that district, as suggested by the United Kingdom Alliance. That a copy of this resolution be signed by the chairman, on behalf of this meeting, and forwarded to the Right Hon. S. Walpole, M.P., her Majesty's Home Secretary of State.

The Rev. Dr. BURNS, in moving this resolution, was of opinion that it was time for the strong drink trade to be under Parliamentary regulation, and Professor F. W. NEWMAN, in seconding it, believed that the doctrines of political economy were not opposed to their cause. There were too many publichouses and beer-shops, and if he might judge from what had been done in Maine, Massachusetts, and other places in North America, it was the poorer classes which carried these measures against the wish of the educated.

Mr. W. DIGBY SKYMOUR, Recorder of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, supported the resolution, and called at

tention to a few statistics of crime at Newcastle, where in a population a little under 100,000, there had been in one year—from September, 1857, to September, 1858—about 2,000 commitments for grave crimes and offences directly resulting from indulgence in strong drinks.

The meeting was next addressed by Mr. SAMUEL FORD, honorary secretary of the alliance, who, in alluding to the bill about to be brought forward in Parliament for the regulation of beer-shops, by Mr. Walpole, said that he had no doubt, but that it would resemble in spirit what Mr. Hardy had introduced; and though he did not expect any very great results from it, yet he believed that, from what took place in that hall that night, the Home Secretary might be convinced there was a sentiment in the country that he could not go too far in the regulation of beer-shops. The alliance was striving to deliver the House of Commons from a great difficulty, to induce them to have nothing to do with the question, but hand it over to the public.

The resolution having been put and carried, the meeting separated after a vote of thanks to the chairman.

THE ARMY ESTIMATES.

There is to be a reduction of the home and colonial establishments of about 7,500 of all ranks, and an increase in the Indian establishment of about 14,000 men. As the former only are provided for by Parliament, there is a decrease of the sum to be voted, but the net decrease amounts to only 9,965. The total amount required for the ensuing financial year is 11,568,000. The whole imperial force for the defence of the United Kingdom and the Colonies, and for the occupation of India will be 229,000 men as compared with 222,000 in last year. The army constituting the home and colonial establishment, exclusive of India, will amount to 122,000 men.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

Her Majesty held a Court at Buckingham Palace on Thursday. The Sheriffs of London and Middlesex had audience, and her Majesty fixed Tuesday for the presentation of the address of the Corporation of London on the birth of her Majesty's grandson. Sir Charles Trevelyan kissed hands on his appointment as Governor of Madras. Mr. Secretary Walpole and Lord Stanley had audiences. In the evening her Majesty went to the Princess's Theatre. The Queen had a dinner party on Saturday evening at Buckingham Palace. The company included the Princess Alice and the Duke of Cambridge, the French Ambassador and the Duchess of Malakoff, the Earl and Countess of Hardwicke, the Earl and Countess of Derby, Lord and Lady Cranworth, Lord Lyons, Colonel the Right Hon. Cecil Forrester, and the Equerry in Waiting to the Duke of Cambridge. On Monday Prince Albert went to Aldershot, presented colours to the second battalion of the 13th of Prince Albert's Regiment of Light Infantry, and returned to Buckingham Palace at four o'clock. The Earl of Aberdeen, Lady Augustus Loftus, the Bishop of London and Mrs. Tait, Colonel the Hon. A. and Mrs. Gordon, and Captain Keppel, had the honour of dining with the Queen in the evening.

The Princess Frederick William, it is understood, will revisit her native country in May, and will remain, should nothing occur to alter the arrangement, till after the Queen's birthday. The Princess will, of course, be accompanied by Prince Frederick William. To compensate in some degree for the disappointment felt by the Berliners, and perhaps by the Princess Frederick William herself, we believe it is settled that the Prince Consort will be present at the christening of his grandson.—*Court Journal*.

The course which her Majesty took in preparing her second son for his future career is to be followed with regard to the two younger Princes. We may now state that, young as Prince Arthur is, his military education may be said to have already commenced. The illustrious godson of the Great Duke has been placed under the charge of a military tutor in the person of Major Elphinstone, of the Royal Engineers, a young officer of great and various attainments, and, doubtless, well qualified for the important trust which has been confided to him. Prince Leopold will also, it is understood, as he grows older, pass under the charge of Major Elphinstone, and, like his brother, be prepared to enter the public service.—*Ibid*.

Lord Cowley, the ambassador from her Majesty at the Court of the Emperor Napoleon, arrived in London on Saturday evening, from Paris, whence he had been summoned by the Cabinet. We (*Times*) are informed that the accounts received from the Continent for the last day or two are by no means reassuring. Lord Cowley will return to his embassy in a few days. We need not remind our reader that the conference upon the Danubian Principalities is about to meet at Paris, and that it is therefore extremely probable that Lord Cowley has been summoned to London only to receive instructions as to his conduct as one of the plenipotentiaries in the Conference.

The statement of the death of the Duke of Buckingham, which has been published, appears to have been unfounded. The Duke is at present in the north of Scotland, and has been suffering from ill health; but the latest accounts do not authorise any serious apprehensions.

Mr. Samuel Warren, M.P., Recorder of Hull, and author of "The Diary of a Late Physician," has

accepted the office of Master in Lunacy, just vacated by Mr. Higgins. The representation of Midhurst thus becomes vacant.

The *Post* understands that the arrangements consequent upon the resignation of Mr. Higgins have been thus settled:—Mr. Higgins returns to his former post of registrar in bankruptcy. Mr. Scott to his office of principal secretary to the Lord Chancellor, and Mr. Phillips loses the appointment which he has held for a week of principal secretary.

Lord Malmesbury has appointed Captain Francis Howard Vyse, late of the Blues, to be Vice-Consul at Jeddah, in Japan. [This appointment is also much canvassed.]

A deputation to present a memorial from the Society of Friends, had an interview with the Earl of Derby on Wednesday at his official residence in Downing-street, entreating the Government not to sanction or allow the Acts of any West Indian Legislature for the importation of coolies, and to use their efforts to counteract the injustice and cruelty which result from those now in operation. The following formed the deputation:—Joseph Forster, Peter Bedford, Robert Forster, Samuel Fox, Joseph Bevan, Braithwaite, Henry Sterry, Samuel Sturge, Joseph Cooper, Robert Alsop, Thomas Briars, Josiah Brown, and Charles Hayland.

Owing to the satisfactory accounts from the East Indies, the authorities have determined to send no more troops by Egypt overland. The staff on special duty in Egypt to organise the transport of troops are ordered to join their respective regiments.

The Government have resolved to issue a commission to inquire into and report on the recruiting system of the army.

Postscript.

Wednesday, Feb. 23, 1859.

THE GOVERNMENT CHURCH-RATE BILL.

Mr. Walpole's scheme does not go down. The *Times* laughs at it as utterly unworkable. The *Daily News* says:—"On the surface, the bill is conciliatory enough. An elaborate attempt has evidently been made to meet the views of all parties, but the attempt is a failure. No party, we venture to say, will be satisfied with the measure as it stands. Good Churchmen, for whom the bill seems to have been specially drawn, have as much reason to complain of its provisions as Dissenters." It might be entitled, remarks the *Globe*, "A bill to abolish Church-rates by a circumlocution."

All the faith and love, which Messrs. WALPOLE and HOPE mean to evoke in landowners, will not, they may rest assured, enable church-extensionists generally to dispense with the voluntary contributions of those who choose to make them in the shape of fixed payments for fixed sittings in church—in other words, *parsonage*. "It will begin fact," writes a correspondent of the *Daily News*, "a bill for the perpetuation of Church-rates, under new, and as is hoped, more favourable circumstances."

In the House of Commons, last night, Sir J. TREVELYAN gave notice that as there must be a discussion on the bill of the government on the subject of Church-rates he should postpone his bill until after that discussion, and on the Friday following he would give notice of a day on which he should ask for a discussion to be taken on his measure.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords last night, Lord COLCHESTER, in answer to the Duke of Argyll, defended the new postal arrangement with respect to the opening of unpaid letters. The Duke of Richmond, Earl Granville, and Lord Campbell advised that the new arrangement should be departed from. A question was afterwards put respecting the conveyance of American mails, and the Lord St. LEONARDS raised a conversation about the transfer of real property. The House rose early.

At the sittings of the Commons, Lord PALMERSTON astonished those who had not heard of his intentions by giving the following notice of motion:—

I beg to give notice that, on Friday next, on going into committee of supply, I shall make some observations and draw the attention of the House to the present state of affairs on the Continent of Europe, and express a hope that her Majesty's Government may be able to make such communications to the House as may tend to encourage the expectation that the general peace of Europe will not be disturbed. (Hear, hear.) I ought to explain, in reference to what passed yesterday, when the right hon. gentleman the First Lord of the Admiralty appealed to hon. members to abstain from pressing motions of which they had given notice on Friday, that I do not apprehend that anything I may have to say will interfere with the statement which the right hon. baronet proposes to make.

Members met in groups afterwards, and considered among themselves the import and meaning of such a course of proceeding.

Lord STANLEY answered questions in reference to India, and so did Mr. FITZGERALD in reference to Japan and the slave-trade. From these answers we learn that Government has no intention to prevent the residence of Europeans in certain new Indian territories without license; that nothing is yet known about the restoration of the principality of Dhar to its native rulers; that Lord Clarendon had written a despatch to the Portuguese Government, urging it to put an end to the slave trade at Mozam-

bique; and that our new consuls and agents in Japan are to receive salaries varying from 324l. to 1,800l. a-year.

Mr. COWPER introduced a motion against the new practice of publishing the reports of the School Inspectors in an abridged form. The question was, whether it was fair to the inspectors and the House that the information given should be served up in a mutilated form, and the President of the Council of Education was blamed by Mr. MILNER GIBSON for doing this, while Mr. ADDERLEY justified the practice. Lord PALMERSTON took the same view of the case as Mr. Gibson, and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made some observations which might be taken to mean that Government would yield the point wished for. After further discussion Mr. COWPER withdrew his motion.

More important than this was a motion of Mr. COLLIER for leave to introduce a bill to prohibit the payment of expenses of conveying voters to the poll at elections. This gave rise to a lively discussion respecting the bill of last year which had promoted such a corrupt arrangement. Mr. COLLIER made an able speech in defence of the change, to which Mr. WALPOLE, while sanctioning the introduction of the bill, replied. Mr. AVRTON said the clause of which he is the author was materially altered during the progress of the bill. Lord PALMERSTON thought the conveyance of voters quite innocent and harmless, though not inexpensive. Mr. COLLIER briefly replied, and obtained leave to bring in his bill.

Mr. ADAMS obtained leave to introduce a bill enabling coroners in England and Wales to admit to bail persons charged with the offence of manslaughter, and

Mr. SCHOLEFIELD for a bill to prevent the adulteration of food and drink.

Mr. CROSS moved the second reading of the Municipal Elections Bill. The object of the measure was to simplify the forms and diminish the expenses, and prevent the malpractices at the election of members of borough corporations and town councils. After a few words from Mr. Fox, Mr. Ridley, and Mr. Adams, the bill was read a second time.

The House adjourned at a quarter to ten o'clock.

THE MONEY MARKET.

The Funds, for the first time for some days past, have asserted their independence of the movements of the Paris Bourse. Closing on Monday at 94½ to 95, and opening at the same yesterday, they left off last night tolerably firm at 95½ to 1, although a decline was established in Paris of pretty nearly 1 per cent. And, singular to say, this change is partly attributed to purchases made on French account.

Much depression prevailed on Monday in all the other continental stock markets. At Vienna the Austrian funds fell 1 per cent., and at Frankfurt 1½ per cent., whilst at Amsterdam the depreciation appears to have been still more serious.

The polling for the representation of Worcester took place yesterday. The result is somewhat obscure, but Calthorpe's committee announce that at the close the numbers were as follows:—

Calthorpe	2,091
Pakington	1,810

The Lord Mayor and several members of the Corporation proceeded in state to Buckingham Palace yesterday, and there presented addresses of congratulation to the Queen and the Prince Consort on the confinement of the Princess Frederick William.

Yesterday morning a large and influential deputation waited upon the Lord Bishop of London, at London House, St. James's-square, to solicit his lordship to support Lord Bury's Bill for legalising marriages with a deceased wife's sister, when it shall come before the House of Lords. Lord Bury introduced the subject. The Bishop of London said the subject was one of growing importance, and every year rendered it more and more necessary that it should be settled. The legislative difficulties with which it was surrounded became more apparent upon examination, and he was obliged to remember that a grave responsibility rested upon him as the representative of the whole body of the clergy of the metropolis, own feelings on the subject; but he could assure the and that, therefore, he could not consider merely his deputation that he would not neglect to give to the consideration of the subject his best and earliest attention.

The Berlin journals speak of a matrimonial union between the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alexandra, daughter of Prince Albert of Prussia and the Princess Marianne of the Netherlands. This latter is separated from her husband.

A telegram from Turin, dated Feb. 22, says:—"The Marquis Massimo d'Azeglio, who has left to-day for Rome, is charged with a mission to the Prince of Wales, upon whom the King has conferred the order dell' Annunziata. The Archduke Maximilian is gone to Venice."

The Servian Skuptschina was dissolved on the 12th inst. by Prince Milosch in person, after a speech, the delivery of which occupied three-quarters of an hour.

MARK LANE.—THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat on offer to-day, was rather limited; yet all kinds moved off slowly, at Monday's current rate. The general condition of the sample was by no means satisfactory. There was only a limited inquiry for foreign wheat; rate. There was only a limited inquiry for most kinds of barley, at full quotations, and fine malt was quite as dear as on Monday. We had a fair sale for oats and peas, on former terms. Beans moved off slowly, at Monday's decline in value. The flour trade ruled heavy. In prices no change took place.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1859.

SUMMARY.

WE have elsewhere adverted to the many symptoms of a close and stifling political atmosphere, that betoken imminent danger. But the gravest has yet to be named—Lord Palmerston—the stormy petrel—has emerged from his retirement, and has given notice that on Friday next he will call attention to the present state of Europe. Why on Friday? why not on Thursday? On the first named evening, Sir John Pakington was to have brought forward the Navy Estimates—a course which will be now impossible after a lengthened discussion on foreign affairs. The ex-Premier has thus by his skilful manœuvres secured two objects—prominence to his own pretensions, and the postponement of the Reform Bill, which will no doubt have to make way for the Navy Estimates on Monday. Is there any solid reason for this attempt to damage the government and baulk public expectation? We think not. The principles that would guide Lord Derby's cabinet in the present perilous crisis were frankly explained in the debate on the Address, and assented to by Lord Palmerston, as well as other leaders; and there is little doubt that, in conjunction with Prussia, our Government is engaged in pressing upon the Court of Vienna that change of policy, which will deprive the Emperor of the French of all pretext for hostilities. Perhaps it is the fear of ministerial success in these negotiations that has brought Lord Palmerston so prominently forward.

At all events the pressure brought to bear upon Austria is already producing a visible result. The *Memorial Diplomatique*, a Paris paper inspired from Vienna, professes to have authentic information that Austria has just declared to all the great Powers that she is well disposed to hasten the cessation of foreign occupation in concert with France and the Holy See, and that Cardinal Antonelli has admitted the withdrawal of French and Austrian troops from the States of the Church to be both opportune and desirable. The wily Cardinal hastens to accept as a relief what is an inevitable necessity. Whatever may be the ulterior intentions of Louis Napoleon, he cannot refuse this proposal. Accepting it, he removes out of the way the only substantial pretext for fastening a quarrel on Austria.

The House of Lords has had few and short sittings during the week, which were occupied in discussing the grievances of Scotch schoolmasters, and the difficulties that have arisen in the Ionian Islands. In respect to the former, Lord Derby hopes to bring in a Bill which will satisfy the views of both parties. We shall be curious to see whether he proposes to abolish the tests which require all schoolmasters, under the school system north of the Tweed, to be members of the Established Church. Earl Grey's attempts to initiate a discussion on Mr. Gladstone's mission to the Seven Islands have not succeeded. It appears from Lord Derby's statement, that the right honorable gentleman has already left the scene of his abortive labours, and may be expected home next week. No decision had been come to by the Ionian Legislature on his proposals, but there "is no more than a possibility" of their acceptance. Substantially, it would appear, they had been approved of by the Colonial Office, but the Prime Minister has promised that they will not be accepted by the

Home Government till submitted to Parliament. We doubt not Mr. Gladstone will be able to make out a sufficient justification of his attempt to redress grievances, which English officials have for more than forty years failed to remove.

The Ballot Society have opened the Parliamentary campaign by a public dinner, which was thought a fitting occasion by one or two speakers to express their fears of a French invasion. Of the 237 members of Parliament who have voted for the Ballot, only a few were present on the occasion—a sign, we fear, that the question is still regarded as a sham by a great many of our legislators. Why does not the Ballot make progress in the House? This point was not left unnoticed at the dinner at the Albion, and audible utterance was given to the dissatisfaction out of doors at the apathy of Parliament on the subject. "If Lord Palmerston had as many supporters as the Ballot," pithily remarked Mr. Wilks, "he would be Prime Minister at this hour." Mr. Berkeley's reply to these and similar expressions of discontent is, that the country will not support him in making this a standing or falling question. But why does the activity of the supporters of the Ballot in the country contrast so strongly with the timidity of its advocates in the House of Commons?

The Indian mail brings the welcome intelligence of the close of military operations in Oude. That great kingdom has been completely reduced to submission. "From the borders of Nepal to the Ganges, from the frontiers of Rohilcund to the desert plains of Eastern Bengal (it is said), not an enemy to our rule remains in arms. The chiefs and their followers are broken and dispirited fugitives in the jungles of Nepal; 500 forts have been razed to the ground in Oude, and the strongholds from which all-powerful chiefs coerced their peasants or pounced upon neighbours weaker than themselves are laid low." Lord Clyde has retired from active operations, and has left to subordinates the task of hunting after the Begum, Nana Sahib, Bala Rao, Banie Madho, and other chiefs, who after their successive defeat, have yet managed to keep together a force of some 12,000 infantry and 2,000 cavalry in the jungles of the Terai on the Nepalese frontier. One by one, however, the leaders were giving themselves up to claim pardon under the amnesty. Others, apparently hopeless of finding a refuge in Nepal, attempted to force a passage into Rohilcund, and were defeated with great slaughter by General Walpole. Oude is being re-organised by Mr. Montgomery, of Punjab celebrity. We trust that better days are in store for that productive province, which, under a wise system of administration, may be a source of increased revenue to the Indian government. Though rebellion has now been trodden out, the deplorable and fatal outbreak of fanaticism at Tinnevely, in the Madras Presidency, is a proof that the difficulties of governing prejudiced Orientals by English law have, by no means, ceased.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MARRIAGE with a deceased wife's sister is a question which seems to have fallen into the vacated position of the Jewish Disabilities Bill. The Commons will annually pass it—the Lords will annually reject it. It is one of the remaining landmarks of ecclesiastical old-foginess. A long stand will be taken against it, because the active interest of the public in its favour is comparatively small. The measure is opposed by much the same minority in the one House, and majority in the other, which deprecated the unchristianising of British institutions, by the admission of our Jewish fellow-subjects to political power. But this is hardly a sufficient reason to justify Lord Bury in moving the second reading of his Bill without a single syllable of comment. It looks lazy. It is hardly respectful to opponents. It is very unusual—and, after all, it saves but little, if any, time. Seconded as the motion was, also without observation, by Mr. Schneider, Lord Bury's colleague, it came before the House on Wednesday with no other attraction than that which it inherently possesses. The opponents of the Bill were wiser in their generation. Mr. Hope and Mr. Walpole took pains to dress up their arguments against the Bill so as to make them as effective as possible. Both of them spoke impressively, and if Lord John Russell had not most opportunely and unexpectedly come to the rescue, the debate would have told against Lord Bury, whatever the division might have done. When a man takes a measure under his conduct, any display, or seeming display, of insouciance is a mistake the effects of which he will feel hereafter. Lord Bury's reply at the close of the debate would probably have been smarter and more effectively delivered, if he had previously studied to adapt some opening observations to the latest phases of opinion on the subject. The division—the first of the Session—showed 135 votes in favour

of the motion, and 77 against it—leaving a majority of 58. The Bill was committed on Monday.

It was a curious coincidence of the debate that in the very midst of its course Baron Meyer de Rothschild, the newly elected member for Hythe, appeared at the bar to be sworn in. A resolution, in conformity with the Act of last Session, was proposed by Mr. A. Smith and seconded by Lord John Russell, as soon as the Baron had intimated his conscientious objection to take the oath "on the true faith of a Christian." Mr. Newdegate demurred to so hasty a proceeding, but was overruled—and Mr. Dancombe has given notice of his intention to convert the resolution into a "standing order." Whether the Act of Parliament will admit of thus keeping the door open throughout the duration of Parliament, without the ceremony of passing a resolution as each occasion may require, remains to be seen. On Thursday afternoon, Mr. Salomons took his seat as member for Greenwich.

On the same evening—a private member's night—Mr. Locke King obtained leave to bring in his Bill for the better settling of the real estates of intestates. He proposes applying the same law, in cases of intestacy, to regulate the distribution of real and personal estate. The Solicitor-General acceded to the motion, not, however, without giving pretty distinct intimation that he will not support it further. Mr. Ayrton then moved for leave to bring in a Bill to repeal certain restrictive Acts which greatly harass the proprietors, publishers, and printers of newspapers and pamphlets. We have to thank the honorable member for taking in hand so desirable and useful a reform, and, especially, having taken it under his management, for doing his work in such workmanlike style. We augur from the reply of the Solicitor-General, that he will most likely be able to carry the Bill, slightly curtailed perhaps, through all its stages—always supposing, that is, that Parliament shall last long enough to admit of it—and, assuredly, if he does so, he may lay claim to the honour of having quietly achieved a very creditable and important work. Mr. Black, also, succeeded in ushering in his Annuity Tax Repeal Bill, and in extorting from the Lord Advocate the promise of his vigorous opposition to it in all its future stages. Mr. Dillwyn withdrew his Endowed Schools Bill, for the purpose of presenting another having the same object, but so worded as to obviate contingencies not originally contemplated, and to secure the undivided support of the Liberal party.

Friday was occupied with one of those "miscellaneous" debates on the motion for adjournment, which so curiously, but confusedly intermingle the most heterogeneous questions. The Charles-et-Georges affair, the supply of guano, our Navigation Laws, and Lord Malmesbury's letter to the Greenock Chamber of Commerce, were mixed up pell-mell with criticisms on Mr. Gilbert Scott's Gothic design for a new Foreign Office. When these questions had been thus irregularly and inconveniently taken out to air, and put by again, Lord Stanley moved the resolution which is to be the basis of his Bill, authorising an Indian loan in the British money market, for seven millions sterling. Sir Charles Wood thereupon entered at some length into prognostications of the future—and drew a very gloomy financial picture indeed. Sir Erskine Perry followed, adding some darker tints. Mr. Vernon Smith was more hopeful as to the elasticity of Indian resources. Mr. Cardwell was reasonable as became him. Mr. Lowe spoke like a man out of office—sterling common sense, for the most part—and, at a late hour, the noble Secretary for India wound up the debate with a few further explanations, and obtained what he asked for. The Civil Service Superannuation Bill was then, after slight discussion, read a second time.

On Monday Mr. Secretary Walpole, in a full House, and amid profound silence, expounded his plan for the settlement of the Church-rate controversy. We have described and commented upon it in another place. The tone of the right hon. gentleman was all that could be desired—conciliatory, respectful, courteous. But he won the cheers of the House far more when he dismissed, one after another, all previous plans as impracticable, than when he detailed the provisions of his own. In short, the symptoms were that, however the temper of the man deserved respect, the project of the Minister would not obtain support. Sir J. Trelawny wisely abstained from any hasty judgment on the subject—contenting himself with securing an arrangement by which his Bill for abolition will be discussed with the Government measure for commutation and exemption. Sir G. Grey and Sir G. Cornwall Lewis hinted more than doubts whether they could support it. Lord John Russell, true to his old principle, acceded to it reluctantly as a wider measure than he could wish. But, in argument, Lord John is right.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

"Not a very popular topic for discussion!" No, gentle reader! but one of vital interest to the few whom it does interest. After Indian finance, it is, perhaps, the topic of the week which has the best claim to our consideration. On the first subject, we published our thoughts last week—and Friday's debate has but added fresh weight to the views we then propounded. On the last, if our memory be correct, we said something about this time last year—but as renewed discussion brings fresh aspects of it into more prominent relief, we see no sufficient reason to go out of our way to avoid it. We are aware that, even in our own circle of readers, different conclusions are held with, we cannot doubt, equal conscientiousness—and, in contradistinction to what is our observation in regard to most other questions, our own views are at variance with those of our friends in proportion as they live North. But editorial duty is not restricted to the narrow limits within which a wide accordance of opinion may be reasonably supposed. While Parliament sits, we commonly follow their lead in our selection of topics—and in conformity with this practice, we proceed to touch upon the Bill of Lord Bury to legalise marriage with the sister of a deceased wife.

We decline, on the present occasion, all debate with such as find a prohibition of this conjugal connexion in the Levitical law, as we decline also to take notice of the opposition to it which is based upon our ecclesiastical canons. These are lights in which everything has been urged, *pro* and *con*, that can be urged, and we see no end to be gained by travelling over again this well-trodden ground. We wish to consider the question in its political and social aspects merely—and, on this account, we place our observations in a part of our paper usually reserved for political and social topics.

Assuming, then, as we think we are fairly entitled to do, that the religious grounds for abstaining from such marriages do not certainly outweigh those which allow them, and that a Divine prohibition of them cannot be made out with sufficient clearness to be authoritative, we submit that nothing can be more unwise, nothing more detrimental to State sanctions, nothing more likely to demoralise the political conscience of a community, than to maintain restrictions of the social area within which the marriage tie may be contracted, which the ordinary feelings of society do not respect. The number of these marriages may be few in comparison with the aggregate number of those of another kind—*must be*, from the nature of the case. But is it not a fact, that in the majority of instances in which the sexual affections run into this channel, the legal prohibition is very slightly accounted for? Those who choose thus to associate their future lives, in spite of recent statutory and judge-made law, may be constrained to look certain hardships and even perils steadily in the face, but they are unconscious of any humiliation. Take them from what class you will, they do not, in this country at least, lose an atom of their self-respect. Although beyond the pale of civil recognition or protection, their union never provokes a blush of shame. Nor does it, save under very exceptional circumstances, exclude those who may contract it from the freest social intercourse with their neighbours, nor does it lower them in public esteem. An increase in the number of these prohibited contracts is never quoted as a symptom of the increasing immorality of the age—a diminution is never made the theme of felicitation. All this proves that the prohibition has not succeeded in finding an entrance into the consciences of people in general. It stands for nothing more than a practical inconvenience. It does not root itself in nature. It is not backed by the assent of reason. Now this we take to be a great political evil. It undermines the basis of all popular reverence for law, as law, and makes of it, as Shakspeare says, "a scarecrow for daws and crows to light on." This going beyond the conscience of the community in our prohibitive legislation is generally impolitic, because invariably self-defeating—but in a case like that of the marriage contract, it is pre-eminently so—for its tendency is not merely to eat away respect for law, but also to weaken the prohibitions of marriage which are founded in better reasons than legislative or judicial caprice.

Viewing the question in a social light, we cannot conceal from ourselves that something may be said on both sides. It is urged against any such relaxation of the law as would admit of these marriages, that the sanctity of the domestic affections would thereby be thrown open to invasion—that the hallowed intimacy into which a wife's sisters are now taken by her husband could no longer subsist were the barriers which law puts between them utterly broken down—that jealousy, discord, and, perhaps, permanent alienation between sisters would be the natural

result of the most innocent fondness of the husband for his wife's sisters—and that, in point of fact, the married lady would see in her nearest relations the possible successors to her conjugal rights. There may be something in this—but, we suspect, the argument applies mainly to the upper ranks of social life, in which marriages are pretty frequently based upon family convenience rather than upon love. Amongst the middle and working classes, so far, at least, as our observation has extended, these morbid and jealous forecastings of future possibilities find little place. A woman, disposed to be suspicious of what her husband might do in case of her own death, will probably take alarm quite as readily at his ordinary attentions to attractive and unmarried females, as at the allowed familiarities which pass between brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law. For, after all, these familiarities, although the common expressions of the tender affection, have no tendency, where they are regarded as a matter of course, to excite it. Men do not usually look out for a second wife prior to the death of the first—and where they do, the very absence of sympathy with a living wife is more likely to operate against the choice of any of her sisters, than in favour of it. We cannot help thinking, therefore, that this argument, even if it have force, is applicable within a very limited sphere. We never heard of it until the recent alteration in the marriage law required some better show of support than the controverted text in Leviticus, or the decisions of canonical rules. It may go for what it is worth—but that, in our opinion, is not much.

On the other hand, it is certain that wives who are also mothers, if permitted to choose their successors, would generally prefer their own sisters. The motive which so frequently dictates a second marriage in the same family, is a hallowed regard to the memory of the first. Who so likely to prove a kindly step-mother as the aunt of the sister's children? Who so likely to bring them up with affectionate solicitude? The poor especially feel this, and, in spite of the law, act upon it. Nor, in countries where the law allows these marriages, are they found to be productive of domestic uneasiness. It is all very fine to say that this is but a single restriction upon a widower's choice—that it can only operate as a grievance here and there even upon them—that it is a grievance to those alone who determine to make it one—and that it is not fair that it should be set aside to the peril of letting into every family of the kingdom a foe to the sanctities and peace of domestic life. We say, the danger apprehended is far more fanciful than the grievance that remains unredressed. Any fetter unnecessarily put upon human liberty, particularly in regard to family relationships and arrangements, is a real evil, and, in many cases, becomes a serious affliction. The best guardianship of a bereaved husband's children, can never be to him a matter of indifference. The question is one which, for him, involves the dearest issues of domestic life—issues, too, which extend beyond time and the grave, into the eternal world. This is not a matter in which law can step in with its arbitrary prohibitions without creating a grievance. Some better reason should be assigned for it than the morbid sensitiveness of married women in the higher ranks. If, indeed, the women of England contemplate the alteration of the law proposed by Lord Bury with serious apprehension for the sanctities of their homes, we must say they have treated the matter with special coolness. Not a single step have they taken to demonstrate their horror. Not a protest have they uttered. A few members of Parliament seem to monopolise the knowledge of their alleged unanimity of aversion to this reform—and their circle, we suspect, is limited to fashionable life. But there is society in England beyond the limits of St. James's—and there are women of pure instincts below that elevated sphere. Else, would there be repeated majorities in favour of the change in our representative assembly? We trow, not.

WILL THERE BE WAR?

This question still, nay, increasingly, occupies all thoughts. And no wonder. The signs of stormy weather face us on all sides. The English Ambassador comes over, in haste from Paris to consult with the Cabinet, and brings with him reports "by no means reassuring." Once again monetary operations are almost entirely suspended, and all kinds of securities droop on every European bourse. We hear of the large purchases of horses, saltpetre and other stores, here and elsewhere—contracts for war matériel—continued preparations at Marseilles, Toulon, Trieste, and Milan. At Vienna, war would appear to be accepted as inevitable. Austria is endeavouring to strengthen her alliances. All Germany is summoned to her side to make common cause with the Hapsburg dynasty—Protestant Germany in effect invited to the rescue of the tottering Vatican and its Austrian protectors. With

one signal exception, Germany responds not with material aid, or "entangling alliances," but with enthusiastic demonstrations against Napoleonism. So far as France is concerned, we need not go beyond the extraordinary circular issued to the prefects of departments by M. Delangle, for proof of her Imperial master's resolution. The intention of that document, which may match with any issued by Ledru Rollin during the days of the Republic, is to prepare the population, through the provincial press, for peace or war, according as the Emperor may ultimately decide. It would thus appear that the interests of thirty-six millions of Frenchmen are to be bound up with the will of the Imperial Autocrat. This circular, moreover, as well as the tone of the Paris press, are clearly intended to encourage the idea that the French Government still presents to Austria the alternative—concession or war.

In the midst of these hostile preparations, it would seem rash in the extreme to express the belief that the peace of Europe will not be broken, and that the French Emperor does not mean war. But there are some cogent considerations that support this conclusion. No one can doubt that Louis Napoleon is bent on putting an end to the exceptional state of things in Central Italy, and that he will be able to do so only by thoroughly frightening the Court of Vienna. It may reasonably be assumed that the extravagant demands of the Imperial pamphleteer, in respect to the redistribution of Italian territory, were put forward rather with a view of alarming Austria, than as a serious proposal. The Emperor Napoleon could never seriously propose a scheme of spoliation which would unite against him England, Prussia, and Russia, as well as Austria. But he has already had proof of the unyielding obstinacy of the Court of Vienna which, for many years past, has resolutely evaded all engagements to abandon its military supremacy over independent Italian States. In his view, evidently, nothing but the certainty of armed intervention will induce Austria to withdraw her troops from the Papal States, and give hope of a reform of the Government of Central Italy.

It is equally apparent that the Austrian Government is aware of the dangerous crisis which its Italian policy has precipitated. If the Austrian Cabinet were guided by purely secular considerations, the result would not be doubtful. But it has chosen to identify itself with the iniquitous policy of the Romish Cardinals. It might consent to evacuate the Legations, but to permit a reform in the Papal administration which would virtually destroy the secular authority of the Holy Father, would be an abrogation of the Concordat by which the subjects of Francis Joseph were handed over to priestly despotism, in return for the moral support of the Head of the Catholic Church. In few words the Vienna correspondent of the *Times* reveals the main difficulty in the way of concession to the demands of France. "Since the year 1853," he says, "the Ultramontane party has been on the potent here, and there is great reason to fear that it will long remain so." Count Buel might not object to provide for the cessation of a state of things in Italy, which would diminish the chances of insurrection and allow France to carry out her declared wish of withdrawing her army from Rome. But the Jesuits and creatures of Cardinal Antonelli, who rule the feeble mind of the Austrian Emperor, know that reform at Rome would be fatal to their influence at Vienna. With them, equally with the great Cardinal himself, any change would be "the beginning of the end." The Court of Vienna is the last sanctuary of Romish ecclesiastical despotism.

Such seems to be the conclusion of the Prussian Government. While isolated Austria is straining every nerve to win over the smaller States of the German Confederation to her views, Prussia declines to be made the cat's paw of Ultramontane bigots. The Berlin Cabinet unites with the English Government in the opinion, that the status quo cannot longer be maintained in Italy, and that a solution of existing complications can be effected without a general war or the necessity of raising the banner of German Nationality. "It is incontestable," says the Prussian Gazette, in a kind of semi-official manifesto, "that no Power, not even Austria, can desire to see an indefinite prolongation of the actual state of affairs in Central Italy." It would be a work conformable to the well-considered interest of all parties to settle this question in such a manner that the Government of this portion of the Italian Peninsula should be enabled to keep order in their own States without the aid of foreign troops." The Court of Berlin declines to back up Austria in a policy which will keep Europe in a chronic state of warlike alarm, and will only take sides in case the Emperor of the French becomes the aggressor. While recognising the claims of Germany, Prussia

is not unmindful of her position as a European Power.

Austria, then, stands alone in her attitude of sullen obstinacy—for the vague assurances of the minor German Courts are of little worth, so long as the integrity of Germany is not menaced by a French army. The present situation is too intolerable to last long—intolerable not only to the principals in the quarrel, but to neutral Powers like England, Prussia, and Russia, that are obliged to augment their armaments, and are suffering severely in paralysed trade and declining revenue in consequence of war's alarms. Sooner or later, we are disposed to think, these Powers will combine to exact from the Court of Vienna such a change in the Italian Peninsula as will free its independent States from Austrian dictation and foreign troops, and deprive the Emperor of the French of all pretext for armed intervention. Events appear to be ripening for giving practical form to the suggestions of our own Government for an European Congress to consider the propriety of devising, in the words of Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli, "some new arrangement of the territory of Central Italy."

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.

Professor Bennett's charming pastoral, the *May Queen*, was performed for the second time on Thursday last, under Mr. Hullah's auspices, and was followed by the choral symphony of Beethoven—his greatest orchestral masterpiece. The two attractions combined brought together an overflowing audience. In the former work, which seems to grow in public favour with every fresh performance, the choruses were sung with much lightness and smoothness, the solos being sustained by Miss Banks, Mr. Wilbye Cooper, and Mr. Santley. With so effective an orchestra the grandness and richness of Beethoven's elaborate symphony were carefully brought out and appeared to be thoroughly appreciated by the company present. We are glad to learn that the signal success of last Thursday has induced Mr. Hullah to repeat the performance on Tuesday next.

PROBABLE MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

No fewer than three changes in the Ministry are, we have reason to believe, about to take place. Sir E. L. B. Lytton intends to resign the Colonial Secretaryship in favour of Mr. Gladstone, as soon as the latter returns from Ionis, provided, of course, that Mr. Gladstone shall find himself able to support whatever measures he may then find the Ministers to have produced or resolved on. The destination of Sir E. L. B. Lytton, once the ultra-Radical Mr. E. L. Bulwer, is the House of Lords. "He foams a patriot to subside a Peer." General Peel is expected immediately to resign the War Secretaryship, directly in consequence of the verdict and disclosures in the Wilton case, but also, it is supposed, because he is otherwise uncomfortable in his position. If Lord Kingsdown (Pemberton Leigh) is not persuaded to take the Lord Chancellorship, it is likely that the office will be given to Mr. Cairns, the Solicitor-General, Lord O'Helford being resolved upon retiring into the office of Chief Baron of Exchequer, the recommendations of which are, that its duties are more suited to that department of law with which he is conversant, that it is non-political, and that it is permanent.—*Scotman*.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

THREATENING APPEARANCES.

An official warning was given to the *Presse* for an article published on Tuesday night, which was so offensive to Austria that Baron Hubner had applied for satisfaction, and it was even said that the baron had threatened to demand his passports. After making many serious charges against Austria, the article says:—"A war which would deliver us from this nightmare would it not be blessed among all wars?" The paper was stopped while at press, and a much more offensive article was taken out of it. The warning states that such polemical discussions are of a nature to raise ill-founded uneasiness in the public mind. This warning was, it is stated, agreed to at a Cabinet Council. The *Daily News* correspondent writes:—

What Prince Napoleon will say, or cause to be said, about the snub to his journal is curious. He was present at the council, and I do not believe he was a consenting party to the comedy which is now playing. You may be quite certain that down to a very recent period instructions from the highest quarter have been given to write up war in the Government press. Only two or three days ago M. Delangle, thinking to be the exponent of the Emperor's contempt for "vulgar interests," wrote a circular to the prefects instructing them to incite the opinion that war was a contingency to be expected with equanimity. It is now said that the Emperor is displeased with the wording of the circular. A peace pamphlet by a M. Ripert was seized a few days since, and M. Fobe Germain, the author of the peace pamphlet, "Aurons-nous la Guerre?" has been prosecuted. The menace to the chambers of commerce in the *Paris* of yesterday was a warlike symptom ominous of many others. I cannot think that the warning to the *Presse* argues any substantial change in the situation.

According to another account the warning was the result of the complaints of the Papal Nuncio in Paris

on account of the strong language used against the Pope and the Pontifical Government.

The following is an extract from M. Delangle's important circular to the Prefects adverted to above:—

It is important that the journals should say to the population, for this is the thought of the Emperor, that war without a legitimate motive is impossible, but that if the preservation of his honour demands it, if one of those causes should arise to which France is at all times passionately attached, the Government will not retreat from the idea of war, for war would then be a necessity. Let the papers say and say again that towards whatever result the will of the Emperor may lead it, it is the duty of the nation which has so often received the benefit of his wisdom, and which he has made so great, to follow without hesitation.

The troops which recently left Algeria bade good bye to their comrades on shore with cries of "au revoir à Milan!" The Marseilles journals have been "invited" to publish nothing respecting armaments.

The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Post* says:—

It is the duty of all who desire to avoid war to keep in mind three distinct facts—viz., 1. Austria continues to prepare for hostilities; 2. Piedmont continues her war preparations; 3. France is constantly occupied in making arrangements to throw 100,000 men into Italy within a few hours. . . . It is of the utmost importance, if we are to hope for peace, that the Great Powers should at once make a last attempt to remove Austrian influence from Italy with the peaceful action of diplomacy. Delay involves danger. . . . But as far as I can learn, Austria will not appear at the diplomatic board if the Italian question is to be discussed. On the other hand, the Cabinet of Vienna may promise to endeavour to satisfy the views of England and France by diplomatic action which it would not be prudent to make public.

It is said that the deputies for one of the most populous and important commercial cities of France, who were charged by their constituents with representing in the strongest manner consistent with respect their unqualified disapproval of the war with Austria, waited upon the Emperor. His Majesty listened to their remonstrances with his usual patient placidity; and, when they had said their say, replied, "Gentlemen, reassure yourselves; peace will be made." (*La paix se fera*). On the other hand it is said that the Pope or Cardinal Secretary has rejected the reforms proposed on the part of the French Government.

The rumour that General Lamoricière had offered his services to the Emperor in case of war is now revived.

The correspondent of the *Times* states there is reason to believe the entire army of Lyons is about to be placed on a war footing.

The *Herald's* correspondent says that a camp of 100,000 men is to be formed at Toulon by the end of March.

Prince Napoleon received a numerous deputation of Italian residents in Paris at the Palais Royal on Sunday. The prince, though using cautious phraseology, made a speech on Italian affairs, in which the members of the deputation saw a confirmation of their most ardent wishes. The members of the deputation were presented to the Princess Clotilde, who accepted from them a magnificent bouquet.

It is rumoured that M. Charles Lafitte, the Paris banker, and two English houses, are about to undertake the Piedmontese loan.

The *Moniteur* contains the following:—"The Conference of the Representatives of the Powers will shortly reassemble at Paris for the purpose of discussing (examiner) the result of the Moldo-Wallachian elections.

The *Constitutionnel*, in an article signed by A. Renée relative to the question of the Rouman elections, says that it would be of no use to refuse to sanction the double election of Couza, as he certainly, after it was annulled, would be again elected. If the double election, says the *Constitutionnel*, is not a legal act, nobody certainly now will doubt that it is a national one.

Prodigious extravagance is still the order of the day in Paris. On Wednesday, Prince Napoleon and his bride were entertained by a grand ball at the Hotel de Ville, the decorations of which alone cost no less than 10,000*l.* sterling. The famous marble court was lined with artificial vines bearing black and white fruits, and the bubbling fountains and profusion of fresh flowers showed the oft-enchanted palace with a power of magic never surpassed. It is said that 10,000 persons were present.

The Emperor and Empress were expected, but did not come. Prince Napoleon and the Princess Clotilde arrived at eleven o'clock—an hour somewhat late, considering that the cards of invitation were issued for half-past eight. For upwards of two hours the company assembled in the grand ball-room remained standing in a crowd, the centre being kept clear for the Imperial guests, and no music being allowed to play until their arrival. The State quadrille, which opened the ball, was at length formed, the Princess Clotilde dancing with Baron Hausmann, Prefect of the Seine, and Prince Napoleon with Madame Hausmann. The Prince and Princess afterwards walked all through the rooms. It was much remarked that the Prince, instead of giving her his arm, walked before her.

SARDINIA.

A Turin telegraph of Sunday announces that the Senate adopted that day the bill relative to the loan of 50,000,000*l.* by fifty-nine votes to seven. The Marquis Brignole, a famous champion of the clerical party, condemned the Ministers on the same ground that the Count Della Margherita took up in the Chamber of Deputies. Count Cavour replied by

enumerating the insults of Austria, and reminding the House of the principle now recognised by the best international jurists, that no Sovereign can renounce his own independence, as Austria has persuaded or constrained the Italian princes to do. The partisans of peace are cast down, not by the result of the vote, which was inevitable, but by the grievances raked up by Count Cavour, which might any day be transformed into *casus belli*.

The Piedmontese Government has presented a bill to the Chambers, suspending, until further orders, the export of forage and oats to Lombardy. Nevertheless, in well-informed quarters, peace is considered to be in less danger just at present.

A letter from Turin, dated Sunday, says:— Volunteers from all parts of Lombardy are arriving. The Minister at War is very particular in his selection; but notwithstanding the strict conditions which he imposes and the risk of passing the frontiers, their numbers increase daily. At Leghorn, on the Tuscan frontier, and in the duchies, special measures have been taken to prevent this patriotic emigration, but the Italian youth burns to measure swords with the Austrian, and all the precautions of the authorities are constantly evaded. Parents exhort their children to enlist. "Viva l'Italia" is the universal cry.

The Genoese papers speak of the formation in Piedmont of bases (*cadres*) for nine regiments, to be composed of volunteers from other States.

The Turin correspondent of the *Times*, writing on the 16th inst., says:—"My own opinion, founded rather on information from without than from within, is that the chances in favour of peace are decidedly on the increase. I have little doubt that the Sardinian Government take the same view of matters, although I am not aware of their having admitted it. Among the people at large the feeling will take some time to spread, since many here rarely see any but Piedmontese papers, most of which still raise the war note."

CENTRAL ITALY.

The Duchess of Parma has entered into a treaty with the Government at Vienna, to allow Austrian troops to occupy all the fortresses of the Duchy in case of war. This, it is remarked, puts an end to the rumours of a possible alliance between Parma and Piedmont.

The Grand Duke of Tuscany intends, it is said, to grant a liberal constitution to his subjects.

AUSTRIA.

The *Times* Vienna correspondent says that information recently received from France removes all doubts as to the Emperor Napoleon's intentions, and it would not be surprising should the Austrian army be suddenly placed upon a war footing. The fortifications at Venice are being rapidly strengthened, and armed with heavier artillery. Moreover, Russian soldiers on furlough are being called in. Orders have also been given to purchase cavalry horses. The fortresses in Poland are being inspected by some of the most distinguished Russian officers; and troops are advancing from Taganrog to the Moldavian frontier. Trade is stagnant at Milan—factories idle—workmen dismissed.

The same writer, in a later letter, says:— Austria is willing to make a concession to public opinion, and to cease to give support to the system of misrule which prevails in Central Italy. She lays claim to spontaneous action in this matter, but the probability is that she only yields to the severe moral pressure to which she is subjected by the other great Powers. Both England and Prussia strongly disapprove the recent policy of the Emperor Napoleon and of Sardinia, but they have not neglected to remind Austria that the present complication of affairs is in some degree to be attributed to the pertinacity with which she has maintained a military position to which she has no just claim.

Austria will, it is said, send representatives to the Paris Conference provided England and Prussia guarantee that the Italian question shall not be mooted.

A letter from Milan says:— General Giulay has gone to review the troops stationed at Ferrara, Bologna, &c. He will afterwards establish his headquarters at Verona, where they were before the rumours of war. This is a trifling satisfaction given to the archduke. The latter is still here, but he will soon join the archduchess at Venice, where he will pass the Carnival. Defensive preparations are making from Chioggia to Lido. Four new barracks will be built at Brondolo, Malamocco, Lido, and Chioggia. These symptoms show that an attack by sea is expected. At Milan, notwithstanding all the anxiety and distress, the Carnival is very gay. The theatres are crowded. The public take this way of manifesting their hopes.

GERMANY.

Public opinion as regards the present critical state of affairs is beginning to manifest itself in Germany. The public journals are full of patriotic sentiments and poetic effusions to call "united Germany" to arm against the foreigner. It is like a faint echo of 1813, when Körner wrote his immortal *Lyre and Sword*.

The *Allgemeine Zeitung*, under the heading "What does Russia intend?" hints at a secret treaty between Russia and France, and concludes with the following sentence:—

Words are no longer of avail; action is the thing, and let it take place at once, and in true earnest.

The proposition made in the Hanoverian Upper Chamber to restrain the exportation of horses gave rise to a warm debate, in the course of which it was contended that any French attack on the Po and Rhine would be a *casus belli*. Prussia's dilatory policy was denounced as anti-German. The proposition was unanimously agreed to.

In the sitting of the Hanoverian Upper Chamber on Thursday last, the 17th inst., M. de Kielmansegge moved that the Government should take energetic measures to defend the national rights of Germany against the stranger. The motion was unanimously adopted amid loud cheers.

The Vienna Cabinet has issued a circular despatch to all the German States. It is dated February 5. In this circular the Vienna Cabinet points out the dangers which may at any moment threaten Germany. It dwells with satisfaction upon the state of public feeling in Germany. Austria does not think the time has yet come to bring the question before the German Diet, but it expresses the conviction that if it comes to a war against France and Sardinia it can rely upon the support of the whole confederation. The circular is looked upon as a demonstration against Prussia.

The Prussian Government has also issued a circular despatch. It is dated the 12th of February. This circular dwells upon the hope that peace will not be interrupted. It alludes to the joint efforts of Prussia and England to maintain it. It expresses its conviction that Austria will lend a willing hand to a diplomatic solution of the difficulties resulting from the state of affairs in Central Italy. Prussia (says the circular) while reserving her action as a European Power, will nevertheless fulfil her duties as a member of the German Confederation.

The Berlin letters of the Paris journals contain accounts of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha again moving about as a Pacifist-General of Europe. He is now, they say, gone to Vienna to submit to the Austrian Government a scheme for the thorough reform of the Papal States by means of a European Congress, to which the four other Great Powers are reported as having already consented.

The definite election of the President of the Lower Chamber of Berlin took place on the 14th. Count Schwerin, the well-known liberal, obtained 249 out of 288 votes, and therefore the seat fell to him. The Vice-Presidents elected were Reichensperger, leader of the Roman Catholic party, and Mathis, a Ministerialist. The Kreuz party vainly put forward Von Arnim, for each office in succession.

It is stated that the Emperor of Austria will be one of the godfathers of the child of the Prince and Princess Frederick William.

A bill was presented on the 17th inst., in the Chamber of Deputies relative to civil marriage. It suppresses some of the existing impediments to marriage, and fixes certain causes for divorce. Civil marriage is not made obligatory, but is to remain optional.

The students of Berlin University have celebrated the birth of little Frederick by a torchlight procession, and a deputation of their number, with a congratulatory address, was received by the Prince and Princess.

THE ROMAN STATES.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AT ROME.

The *Post* correspondent writing on the 12th February says:—

I mentioned in my last letter that the Prince of Wales had had a very agreeable interview with the Pope. On the following day his Royal Highness commenced his studies of the topography of ancient Rome by ascending the tower of the Capitol, where he remained nearly two hours. On Wednesday the Prince rode out with Colonel Bruce to the street of tombs on the Appian Way, and passed some time amongst those imposing ruins. On Thursday the Prince and his suite ascended the cupola of St. Peter's, following the example of all enthusiastic sightseers by entering the ball. In coming down the easy descent which leads from the roof to the nave of the church, the Prince's attention was called to a marble tablet recording that on that day Albert, Prince of Wales, had ascended the cupola and entered the ball of St. Peter's. The subterranean church was next visited by the Prince. It was illuminated for the occasion; and Mr. Pentland pointed out to his Royal Highness the various remarkable tombs it contains, and especially those of the Stuarts, whose titles appear as James III., Charles III., and Henry IX., kings of England. The simple monument of the only English Pope that ever occupied the chair of St. Peter, Adrian IV. (once Nicholas Breakspear), was also looked on with interest by the young Prince. The visit to St. Peter's was wound up by going through the sacristy, celebrated for the frescoes by Milozzo da Forlì, brought from the church of the Santi Apostoli, the ancient plate, and sacred ornaments and dresses, amongst which is the *dalmatica* worn unwards of a thousand years ago by Pope Leo III. at the coronation of Charlemagne. On Friday the Prince, who is extremely fond of music, honoured Mr. Blumenthal with his presence at the morning concert given by that exquisite performer. In the evening our distinguished sculptor, Mr. Gibson, dined with the Prince of Wales; and this morning his Royal Highness visited Mr. Gibson's studio, and greatly admired his new group of a nymph and Cupid. The Prince left Mr. Gibson's studio this morning with the purpose of paying a complimentary visit to Queen Christina.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

EXPECTED REFUSAL OF THE PROPOSED REFORMS.

According to a telegram from Athens a large majority of the members of the Ionian Parliament appear determined to refuse the discussion of the reforms proposed by Mr. Gladstone, and it is expected that should the Parliament be dissolved, the present members will be re-elected.

SPAIN.

The Madrid journals of the 12th state that a bill had been presented to the Chamber of Deputies for establishing universal suffrage, and for depriving Government functionaries of the right of sitting in the chamber; but it was not thought likely to pass.

The Queen, says a Madrid despatch of Saturday

last, has signed the decree relative to the Hispano-American Exhibition of 1862.

The Neapolitan exiles left Cadiz on the above-named day on board an American frigate.

The English Consul is negotiating a treaty of peace between Spain and Morocco.

TURKEY.

THE DIFFICULTY WITH THE PRINCIPALITIES.

The *Journal de Constantinople* confirms the statement that the Porte has protested against the election of A. Couza, and appeals to the conference of the Powers. Letters express doubts whether the Sultan will receive the Moldavian deputation. 15,000 Turkish troops are stationed along the banks of the Danube. The attitude of the Rouman population is resolute. Frequent conferences have taken place between Sir Henry Bulwer, Baron Prokesch, and the Porte.

A letter from Jassy, of the 11th, says that the new Hospodar had announced his election to the Moldavian Assembly, who had adopted and presented a very gratifying address to him. The Wallachian Assembly had voted the Prince a civil list of 70,000 ducats.

Hospodar Couza is reported to have said that he is willing at once to abdicate if a foreign Prince should be placed in his stead. The address to the Great Powers, which he has drawn up, has been received with much enthusiasm by the people of Bucharest.

SERVIA.

The Senate has been reconstituted by Prince Milosch. It numbers at present four members of the ancient Senate, and seven new members. Prince Milosch does not appear to be following a course which will add to his popularity in Serbia, nor to his reputation as a ruler. He has already exiled or imprisoned some half-dozen of his principal political opponents. In the course of a proclamation he says:—

You, my faithful nation, have again raised me, through the Skuptschina of St. André, to the dignity of Hereditary Prince of Serbia, with the hereditary rights which had been formerly granted to the Obrenowitch dynasty by the hattı scheriff issued to that effect. In greeting, by this proclamation, my well-beloved nation, I once more declare that during my life my only object will be to consolidate its happiness and its prosperity, as I in my youth pursued the object of its deliverance. I will deliver up this precious inheritance to my son, the legal heir to the Serbian throne and your future chief, Prince Michael.

The *Austrian Gazette* announces that a military deputation of the chief officers of Serbia had arrived at Belgrade, from Semlin, to congratulate Prince Milosch Obrenowitch in the name of the Emperor of Austria.

AMERICA.

Commodore Paulding, by whom General Walker and his freebooting companions were removed from Nicaragua, and the last marauding expedition in that quarter broken up, has been sued by several of these precious patriots for bringing them back to a land of goals and grand juries.

The arrival of the 42d Highlanders at New York, en route to British Columbia, was expected, and a very friendly reception was to be given to them.

In the House of Representatives the Judiciary Committee was instructed to inquire into the expediency of a law to punish polygamy in the territories, and to restrain the people and authorities therein from interfering with the federal judiciary. The recent news from Utah had, no doubt, given rise to this measure.

The Legislature of Nova Scotia was opened on the 3rd inst. The Governor's speech was brief, and of an unimportant character. It refers to a federal union of the provinces, and an intercolonial railway, notices a slight deficiency in the revenue, and promises several useful measures.

By way of New Orleans we have dates from the city of Mexico to the 29th ult. The news is thus telegraphed:—General Miramon reached the capital on the 26th with 1,000 cavalry. He disapproved of the acts of General Robels, and displaced him, after which he placed General Sulas at the head of the army, and reinstated Zuloaga. It was reported that Miramon intended marching on Vera Cruz with a strong force. The Liberals had routed General Negreti near Jalapa.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The correspondent of the *Times*, writing from Victoria, Vancouver's Island, asserts that the productiveness of the mines in British Columbia is now quite settled in the affirmative, although they do not appear to be so rich as those in California. At the same time the mining operations were almost brought to a stand-still by the severity of the weather in the month of December, and it was not anticipated that they could be generally resumed until the middle of February. Owing to this cause, and to the want of communications, there had been much distress among the miners, who were suffering both from the intense cold and from want of provisions, which, in some places, were hardly to be obtained at any price.

The *Daily News* correspondent also takes a favourable view, and says the want of provisions arose from the restrictions laid upon miners in the Hudson's Bay territory, as to carrying provisions, in order to force them to buy from the Company. The men were nearly all satisfied with their earnings and prospects, and mostly intended to return in the spring, which sets in very early. The earnings

seem to have ranged from three to thirty dollars a day, the average apparently being from six to ten dollars a day; and the cost of living to these hardy pioneers ranging from one to four dollars a day. Paying diggings have already been found on the Frazer River, extending from Fort Hope almost to Fort Alexander, a continuous distance of nearly 400 miles. Even now, it is said, better average wages can be made there than in any part of California; and when sluices (necessary for getting the gold, on account of its fineness) have been generally adopted, more than twice the amount now obtained per hand can be easily got.

From Victoria (by way of the United States) we learn that a party of American "rowdies" had carried away a British justice of the peace from Holmesbar, and made him pay a fine of fifty dollars for contempt.

INDIA AND CHINA.

THE OUDE REBELLION SUPPRESSED.

The steamer Northern, from Bombay, arrived at Suez on the 8th inst. Bombay date Jan. 25.

The rebellion in Oude is entirely suppressed. The Begum and some followers have gone by night marches into Nepal, partly forcing her way, partly bribing; the Sepoys of her party said to be plundering the Nepal villages. A corps of observation remains on the frontier. The Nana supposed to be with the Begum.

Brigadier Showers, with a column from Agra, came up with the rebels under Tantia Topee, at Bosh, on the 16th of January, having marched ninety-four miles in three days. He defeated and dispersed them, killing about 300. Three chiefs fell on the field, and one, on an elephant, was overtaken and killed by Lieut. Hadfield, of the Agra Police Cavalry.

On the same day a body of rebels crossed the river Sarlah into Rohilcund, but were driven back.

The following is the latest intelligence from Allahabad:—January 18, 7.23 p.m.—The Commissioner of Rohilcund reports that the rebels, who numbered from 20,000 to 30,000, were defeated with slaughter, and driven across the Sartheas, their guns taken, and Nurput Sing of Roosa and Bence Sing killed. There has been a disturbance in the Nizam's territory, and parties of marauders, composed of Rohilla Arabs and Deccanees, are doing much mischief on the borders of Berar. The Durat Commissioner, while at Risade, on the 15th Jan., was attacked. Brigadier Hill Howard came to his assistance. Some fighting ensued, and in the pursuit of the enemy several casualties occurred among our officers.

The *Bombay Times* of the 25th January states that public notice has been given of the provinces of Oude and Rohilcund being again open to European families.

Lord Clyde has applied for authority to pursue the rebels to Nepal. He will return to England in the month of February.

Lord Canning has given an increased extension to the amnesty, and has forbidden any executions to take place unless previously sanctioned by him.

The India and China mails reached Suez on the 14th instant, with dates—Calcutta, the 28th, and Hong Kong, 15th January.

The rebels, having attempted to enter Rohilcund from Nepal, were defeated with great slaughter by the 42nd Regiment.

Calcutta produce was improving; imports in fair demand at advanced prices; money easier; freights better. Exchange, 2s. 0½d. to 2s. 1d.; Madras, 2s. 0½d. to 2s. 1½d.

Lord Elgin had returned to Shanghai from Hankow, leaving the steamers *Furious* and *Cruiser* behind.

A small combined naval and land force was despatched from Canton on the 8th of January to punish attacks made upon parties of European troops outside the city. The position of the enemy was taken without loss, and a village destroyed.

Singapore imports unaltered; produce in demand; exchange, 4s. 5½d. to 4s. 6d.

Canton imports very dull. Hong Kong exchange, 4s. 5½d. Trade dull.

The estates of the Baine Madhoo have been confiscated and assigned to various loyal natives. Those of the Rajah of Gondah, and of the Churdah Rajah, who have been playing fast and loose with us respectively, will share the same fate. The Government will be thus able to reward in the manner most valued and most suitable the services of friendly chiefs, and of those natives who protected Europeans. The Nana's estates have not yet been assigned, I believe, says the *Times* correspondent, but the female relations of the late Peishwah, Bajee Rao, whom he carried off with him, having previously taken their property, are to receive a proper maintenance from the British Government in case they can make their escape or fall into our hands.

THE RECENT FANATICAL RIOT IN INDIA.

The following extract of a letter from a resident at Palamcottah, referring to the heathen outrage at a funeral in Tinnevely, will be read with interest:—

Palamcottah, Dec. 11, 1858.

We have just had a very striking proof of the need of reform on the subject of the recognition of caste by Englishmen. Yesterday morning an aged Christian in the heathen town of Tinnevely died. Some years ago, several families there embraced Christianity, but, with almost the sole exception of this old man, all had been severed from Christian communion, because they still observed heathen practices, especially at funerals. Two or three weeks before the old man's death, six or seven families earnestly desired to be again received into the

Christian Church, promising in future to bury decently and in a Christian manner. One missionary at Palan-cottah (Mr. Sargent) visited them, saw the sick old man, and prepared to receive them. The heathen, on the old man's death, refused to permit his relatives to take the body through the street leading to the Christian burying-ground. It would seem that this refusal arose partly from caste prejudices, and partly from heathen hatred to Christianity. The Assistant-Collector, to whom the missionary appealed, instead of firmly asserting the right of every one of her Majesty's subjects to go by "the king's highway," requested them to delay the funeral (a thing scarcely safe in a climate like that of India), that he might examine the books for precedents. Next morning he sent an order for the corpse to go through the paddy (i.e., rice-fields). This was a quarter of a mile round, through mud and water, and sometimes deep watercourses. This it was resolved not to do, as it would be yielding a right belonging to every subject; and the old man, on the evening of the second day, was buried in the garden of the Mission-school at Tinnevely, which was near the house he had occupied. His relatives were obliged to have a coffin, though so expensive that only the more wealthy ever have one; and their temptation to resort to their old heathen practices was the greater, because no caste hindrances would have prevented their going to the heathen burying-ground, which lay in another direction. "Long as I have been in India," writes our correspondent, "I had no idea until now how entirely caste governs this people, nor to what an extent professedly Christian magistrates yield to it. When the funeral took place, the mission-compound was surrounded by thousands of heathen. When the coffin was placed on the ground near the grave, they raised a yell which lasted for five minutes. They were quiet during the reading of the service, but as soon as the coffin was lowered into the grave, again the horrid yell resounded; and when the earth was cast on the coffin, it was a third time repeated. The tahsildar (native magistrate), who should have kept order, was watching, and, it would seem, sanctioning these proceedings. It appears not unlikely that, hearing the Queen's Proclamation, the translation of which into Tamil is even more favourable to their national religion than the English document, has encouraged the heathen to go to such lengths. They now regret having done so, as they say it is much worse to have the body of a Christian deposited in the midst of their town than it would have been merely to allow its passage through a street, as they say the idol can never more be carried that way. The morning after the funeral, the judge, to whom the assistant collector had applied at the request of Mr. Sargent, sent his decision, entirely reversing the collector's views, and proving from law that persons of every caste and creed had a right to pass along the public way."

It is stated in the *Madras Times* that on the 12th of January the Mission Chapel was burnt down, and that it was possible the Mission-house might be burnt also.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The Grand Duke of Tuscany intends, it is said, to grant a liberal constitution to his subjects.

M. F. de Lesseps, promoter of the canal of the Isthmus of Suez, has just left Paris for Egypt *via* Berlin, Vienna, and Trieste.

M. de la Guéronnière has received the sum of 10,000 francs for his little pamphlet, "Napoleon III. and Italy," from the publisher, M. Didot.

The *Univers* coolly proposes that existing differences between France and Austria should be submitted to the arbitration of the Pope!

Three exploring parties have been out in South Australia, and their reports all agree in announcing the discovery of a valuable pastoral region to the west of Lake Torrens.—*Australian Gazette*.

The *Globe* notes that the veteran Dutch General, Gunkel, is awaiting his trial for a fearful crime. He sent a poisoned sausage to a female, but the comestible was not eaten by her, killing her brother and servant-maid, the mother of four children. His object was to be rid of the expense of her maintenance, and to obliterate a debt of 1,500 guildres she had lent him.

After six years of indomitable perseverance, Mr. Charles Ledger, an English merchant, established in Peru, has succeeded in landing safely at Sydney a flock of 280 wool-bearing animals of the alpaca species, including the llamas, alpacas, and vicuna breeds. It would seem that Mr. Ledger has accomplished this object in defiance of the Peruvian Government. Be that as it may, he has done a great thing for Australia.

Miscellaneous News.

FALL FROM DOVER CLIFF.—A boy nine years of age fell off Dover Cliff on Thursday. Although the precipice is nearly 300 feet high, it has by different falls lost its perpendicular, or rather at the depth of seventy feet from the summit, forms an inclined plane. The velocity of the boy's fall was thus broken. Strange to say, no bones were either broken or dislocated, and the child is doing well.

DWELLINGS OF THE POOR.—Miss Burdett Coutts, with thoughtful kindness, has given orders for the erection of a block of dwellings for families in Nova Scotia Gardens, Shoreditch, one of the eyesores of even that neglected quarter of the metropolis. Four stories, with an attic story to be used as laundries, &c., club-rooms, and covered areas for the exercise of the children of the inhabitants in wet weather, will make up an imposing building, 176 feet long, and nearly 50 feet high.

MUNIFICENT DONATION.—Miss Atherton, of Kersall Castle, near Manchester (a descendant of the well-known Dr. Byrom), has made a donation of 5,000*l.* to the Manchester Ragged and Industrial Schools, expressing a desire that the money may be applied more particularly towards that branch of the institution which affects "the education and moral

training of vagrant, destitute, and disorderly children." After paying off the debt this donation will leave 3,000*l.* for investment. A portion of the building is to be named the Byrom Wing, in honour of Miss Atherton's family.

POOR-RATES AND PAUPERISM.—The accounts of the expense incurred in relieving the poor of England and Wales are published under this head. The amount expended in the 645 unions during the half-year ending Michaelmas, 1858, was 1,910,608*l.*; 1,441,350*l.* being expended in out-door relief, and 469,258*l.* in "in-maintenance." The cost of relief to the irremovable paupers was 30.5 per cent. on the cost of relief to the other paupers during the half-year; but during the half-year ended at Michaelmas, 1857, the ratio was 28.4 per cent.; so that the proportion has risen 2.1 per cent. in the interval.

ANOTHER BURNT-OFFERING TO CRINOLINE.—The *Morning Advertiser's* Paris correspondent in Wednesday's letter says:—"Another fatal accident, caused by the over-amplitude of ladies' dresses, took place three days ago at Montpellier. A young lady, about twenty-three years of age, and belonging to one of the wealthiest families in the town, was standing near the fire-place, when her dress caught fire. At first she used every effort to extinguish the flames herself, but finding that she could not do so, she ran out of the house, and, crossing the street, went in a blaze into the porter's lodge of a house opposite. Then the flames were extinguished, but the unfortunate lady was so dreadfully burnt that she died on the following day."

LOSS OF THREE LIVES ON THE ORWELL.—On Wednesday evening, between five and six o'clock, a sad catastrophe occurred near a spot in the river Orwell, called Kedgate Hard, about two miles from Ipswich, by which three young men lost their lives, and a fourth experienced a very narrow escape. It seems that a young man, named Caley, accompanied by three gentlemen apprentices at the Orwell works, named Heath, Diggins, and Gower, went for a sail. There was a strong westerly wind, and it is supposed a sudden gust caught the sails and capsized the boat. It being low water, Gower managed to jump on to the mud, and then seized a large buoy. His three companions, it is conjectured, were carried under water by the boat and drowned.—*Chelmsford Chronicle*.

THE OVERLAND TRACK TO BRITISH COLUMBIA.—A very crowded meeting of the Royal Geographical Society was held on Monday week, Sir Roderick Murchison in the chair. The most interesting paper read related to the discoveries made by Captain Palliser in the Far West of British North America. One of these is a practicable pass through the Rocky Mountains, connecting the rich prairies of the Saskatchewan with British Columbia. The facilities for crossing the mountains are so great as to leave little doubt in his mind of the practicability of constructing even a railroad, connecting the plains of the Saskatchewan with the opposite side of the main chain of the Rocky Mountains. The President congratulated the Society on the result of an investigation they had been the first to initiate.

BRITISH OPIUM TRADE TO CHINA.—The following petition, about to be forwarded to the Earl of Carlisle and the Right Honourable M. T. Baines for presentation to Parliament, has received in Leeds 1,485 signatures, including the names of clergymen, professional men, and magistrates:—

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COMMONS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Borough of Leeds

Humbly Sheweth,—That your petitioners believe the British opium trade to China to be the source of much misery and demoralisation to the inhabitants of that empire; that the character of the trade and the means by which it has been carried on, have, on just grounds, proved a cause of offence and irritation to the Chinese, and have during many years embittered the intercourse between the two nations; and that the peculiar connexion of the British Government with the opium trade, through its strict monopoly of the production of opium in India, renders the Government and people of this country (more especially under the altered circumstances of their relation to India) responsible in the sight of God and man for the inhumanity and immorality of this traffic.

Your petitioners also believe that the opium trade is a great obstacle to the introduction of British manufactures and other lawful and mutually beneficial merchandise in China; that it presents one of the greatest impediments to the reception of the Bible and to the spread of Christianity in that empire, and that it is a scandal in the eye of foreign nations both heathen and Christian.

Your petitioners therefore pray that effectual measures may be taken to procure the cessation of the traffic; and also that the present restrictions on the cultivation of the poppy in India may be increased, with a view to limit the supply of opium to legitimate medical demand.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

SINGULAR ROBBERY BY RATS.—Exactly a month ago a leather purse, containing 13 sovereigns, a 5*l.* note, and some silver, was discovered to have been stolen from a place in which it had been put for safety in the shop of the Misses Rippon, 17, Pilgrim-street. The circumstances connected with the robbery and the detection of the thieves are somewhat amusing, and the relation of them may operate as a caution to those who are in the habit of secreting money to be careful as to the spots where they deposit their property. The Misses Rippon reside at the Windmill-hills, Gateshead, and, before leaving the shop at night, they had placed the purse containing the money in a box underneath one of the counters, no doubt imagining that it would there elude the search of all depredators, should any in

their nocturnal rambles visit the premises. The key of the shop is intrusted to a servant girl who opens it in a morning. She on the following day attended to her work as usual, but saw no signs of a burglary having been committed. When the Misses Rippon arrived, however, to their astonishment the purse was gone, and for some time its disappearance was involved in mystery. At length it was suggested that probably the rats might have removed it. A search was made, and although the boards of the floor were taken up, as also those of the adjoining shop belonging to Mr. Pigg, tailor, no clue was found to the missing property until yesterday, when it was discovered safely lodged underneath the passage of Miss Jeffrey, which lies between the two shops. With the exception of a little having been nibbled off one corner of the purse, the owners received back the full amount they had so curiously lost.—*Newcastle Daily Express*.

Law and Police.

CURIOUS CHURCH-RATE TRIAL.—Mr. Hansford, we learn from the report of a libel case tried in the Court of Exchequer on Friday last, is postmaster in the little Huntingdonshire town of St. Neots, a Dissenter, and one of such stuff and mettle as probably to prefer calling himself a Nonconformist. He confesses to having "given lectures," and to having taken the larger license of writing for a local newspaper. These activities would naturally be developed by a Church-rate contest. A case of that kind arose in December, 1856. The rate was strongly opposed, but carried. Mr. Hansford's Nonconformity went the length of refusing to pay. He was summoned before a magistrate, his solicitor proved the rate invalid, and the summons was dismissed. The case was transferred to the Ecclesiastical Court, and the pro-rate party were again defeated. Mr. Hansford came up with some of his fellow-townsmen to hear the judgment delivered. He was, of course, elated at the confirmation of his own victory, and wrote a placard expressing the natural feeling of his party. But it was not an intemperate production. It turned the triumph of Nonconformity to the service of Christian charity. "Ask yourselves," it said, "thinking men, ask yourselves if the plan adopted by the churchwardens is the best one for supporting a church whose mission it should be to teach peace." It declared, as very reasonably it might, seeing that Dr. Lushington, as judge in an Ecclesiastical Court, had virtually said the same thing, "The day of compulsion in religious matters is gone." It concluded with an expression of the very moderate hope, seeing how complete a defeat the pro-rate party had sustained, that St. Neot's would never be "disgraced by another Church-rate." But now mark the bitter influence of the supposed right to tax others for the support of our own religion upon the minds of those who attempt to exercise it. If the rate had been affirmed by Dr. Lushington, how would that triumph of the compulsory principle have been celebrated? Why, by the consumption of effigies of the recalcitrant Postmaster and other active Dissenters. These amiable figures had been already prepared, in confident expectation that the judgment of an ecclesiastical court would reverse that of the magistrates. The incineration of Mr. Hansford's effigy had to be performed, if at all, in private; but his character and position were still open to assault. Mr. Medland, one of the churchwardens, called at the office of Mr. Hansford, and charged him with writing a placard offering 1*l.* reward for the production of the effigies, and on his denying it called him a liar. This, at any rate, we have in evidence—but as Mr. Medland denies that he used so coarse an expression of disbelief, we may hope that he was too excited to be conscious of the offence. Yet it is not denied that some time later, when all excitement might have subsided, he wrote a letter to the Postmaster-General, charging Mr. Hansford with inattention to the duties of his office, with being "a violent political writer," the "editor or manager of a scurrilous three-halfpenny paper," and with being "the principal cause of the greatest commotion, disturbance, and ill-will of one sect towards the other in this town." A surveyor was sent down by the Postmaster-General to investigate the only one of these charges which he could entertain—that of neglect of official duties—and it was found to be groundless. The letter was then made the cause of an action for libel, and the jury awarded damages to the amount of 50*l.*—*Star*.

THE CASE OF THE REV. ALFRED POOLE.—On Friday morning the Archbishop of Canterbury proceeded to hear the appeal of the Rev. Alfred Poole, curate of St. Barnabas, against the revocation of his license by the Bishop of London, on account of his habitual hearing of confession. Dr. Phillimore, who appeared for Mr. Poole, stated the grounds on which Mr. Poole claimed that the appeal should be pronounced for. Mr. Coleridge followed on the same side. Mr. V. Smith opened the case for the respondent. On Saturday the hearing of both sides was concluded, but no deliberance was given. Dr. Lushington, who presided as the Archbishop's Assessor, remarked that three questions arose—first, whether the charges against Mr. Poole were sufficiently defined; second, whether there was legal evidence to prove them; and third, whether Mr. Poole had had an ample opportunity for making a defence. If his Grace, continued the Assessor, should be of opinion that any one of these was not sufficiently made out, he would advise him to reverse the judgment of the Bishop of London.

A SOMEWHAT CURIOUS TRIAL in connexion with the press took place in the Court of Queen's Bench

on Friday. Mr. Woods, who was formerly one of the staff of the *Morning Herald*, made an arrangement with the proprietors of that journal to go on board the *Agamemnon* and describe the process of laying the Atlantic cable. He alleged that they consented to his making arrangements with several other journals, and that they promised not to publish his reports until the day after they were received. Some of them, however, were published in the *Evening Herald*, whereby he alleged that he sustained considerable loss, as the other papers would not pay for letters which had been printed before they had an opportunity of publishing them. The defendants denied the existence of any such contract. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, 24*l.* 16*s.* damages.

A NOBLEMAN SEEKING DIVORCE FROM HIS WIFE'S CRUELTY.—The following case was before the Divorce Court, on Wednesday:—*The Earl of Devon v. The Countess of Devon*.—Dr. Phillimore, Q.C., said that the petitioner prayed for a judicial separation, on the ground of his wife's cruelty. His age was nearly double that of his wife, and the object of the present application was to allow his case to be proved by affidavit. There were affidavits to the effect that the Earl was in a very infirm state of health, and that the excitement of an examination in open court would be attended with danger. If his lordship refused this motion, he would ask for a commission to examine the Earl.—Sir C. Cresswell said it would be far more expedient to allow the petitioner to be examined by a commission than to allow him to prove his case by affidavit. But it was very desirable that when commissions were granted, especially in divorce cases, the Court should give instructions to the commissioner with regard to the examination of the witnesses; otherwise, evidence taken by a commission might be as unsatisfactory as that given by affidavit.—A commission was accordingly granted, and the case was ordered to be tried by oral evidence before the court.

Literature.

The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table:—Every Man His Own Boswell. By OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES, Author of "Astrea, and Other Poems." Edinburgh: A. Strahan. London: Hamilton and Co.

DR. HOLMES, physician and poet, belongs to our Transatlantic cousins,—one of the most original of their living writers. He has been called "the American Hood," with thus much truth,—that he mingles seriousness and humour in a genuine poetic strain, somewhat after the manner, though each in degree less than that of our own matchless singer of "The Song of the Shirt." But he is no imitator; and Miss Mitford—one of the earliest and most enthusiastic of his English admirers—was more nearly right than any of his critics, when she said: "He has no living prototype; to track his footsteps, we must travel back as far as Pope or Dryden;—we could fancy ourselves reading some pungent page of *Abraham and Achitophel*, or of the *Moral Epistles*, if it were not for the pervading nationality, which, excepting Whittier, American poets have generally wanted, and for that true reflection of the manners and the follies of the age, without which satire would fail alike of its purpose and its name." Miss Mitford's *Recollections of a Literary Life* have made Dr. Holmes known in England, too well for it to be needful to say more of his merits; and his poetical works, republished by Messrs. Routledge, were duly introduced by us to our readers some six years ago.

The contents of the volume before us have appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly Magazine*; but are of far too great excellence and amusingness to be left to the fate of periodical literature. It is a book of brilliant talk,—supposed to be the breakfast-table talk of a gentleman residing in an American boarding-house, who accustoms himself to turn out the bright things of his thought, in conversation with, and according to the characters of, the companions of his morning meal. The breakfasts are twelve in number; and our Autocrat of the table Boswellizes himself through as many chapters, full of knowledge, of fine sense, of sly humour, and of a wit that is as genuine as it is individual. There is no little original thought, too,—and, by the way, a saying on that very subject, shall be our first quotation.

Original Thought.—"You don't suppose that my remarks made at this table are like so many postage-stamps, do you,—each to be only once uttered? If you do, you are mistaken. He must be a poor creature that does not often repeat himself. Imagine the author of the excellent piece of advice, 'Know thyself,' never alluding to that sentiment again during the course of a protracted existence! Why, the truths a man carries about with him are his tools; and do you think a carpenter is bound to use the same plane but once to smooth a knotty board, or to hang up his hammer after it has driven its first nail? I shall never repeat a conversation, but an idea often. I shall use the same types when I like, but not commonly the same stereotypes. A thought is often original, though you have uttered it a hundred times. It has come to you over a new route, by a new and express train of association."

We mean that Dr. Holmes, rather than ourselves, should have a column for the casting

abroad of a few seeds of thought. So here is a thoughtful, critical passage on—

Secondary Poets.—"I don't think there are many poets in the sense of creators; but of those sensitive natures which reflect themselves naturally in soft and melodious words, pleading for sympathy with their joys and sorrows, every literature is full. Nature carves with her own hands the brain which holds the creative imagination, but she casts the over sensitive creatures in scores from the same mould. There are two kinds of poets, just as there are two kinds of blondes. [Movement of curiosity among our ladies at table.—Please tell us about those blondes, said the schoolmistress.] Why, there are blondes who are such simply by deficiency of colouring matter—negative or washed blondes, arrested by Nature on the way to become albinos. There are others that are shot through with golden light, with tawny or fulvous tinges in various degree,—positive or stained blondes, dipped in yellow sunbeams, and as unlike in their mode of being to the others as an orange is unlike a snow-ball. The albino style carries with it a wide pupil and a sensitive retina. The other, or the leonine blonde, has an opaline fire in her clear eye, which the brunette can hardly match with her quick, glittering glances. Just so we have the great sun-kindled, constructive imaginations, and a far more numerous class of poets who have a certain kind of moonlight genius given them to compensate for their imperfection of nature. Their want of mental colouring matter makes them sensitive to those impressions which stronger minds neglect or never feel at all. Many of them die young, and all of them are tinged with melancholy. There is no more beautiful illustration of the principle of compensation which marks the Divine benevolence than the fact that some of the holiest lives and some of the sweetest songs are the growth of the infirmity which unfits its subject for the rougher duties of life. When we read the life of Cowper or of Keats, or of Lucretia and Margaret Davidson,—of so many gentle, sweet natures, born to weakness, and mostly dying before their time,—one cannot help thinking that the human race dies out singing, like the swan in the old story. The French poet, Gilbert, who died at the Hotel Dieu, at the age of twenty-nine (killed by a key in his throat, which he had swallowed when delirious, in consequence of a fall)—this poor fellow was a very good example of the poet by excess of sensibility. I found, the other day, that some of my literary friends had never heard of him, though I suppose few educated Frenchmen do not know the lines which he wrote, a week before his death, upon a mean bed in the great hospital of Paris.

(TRANSLATION.)

'At life's gay banquet placed, a poor unhappy guest,
One day I pass, then disappear;
I die, and on the tomb where I at length shall rest,
No friend shall come to shed a tear.
You remember the same thing in other words somewhere in Kirk White's poems. It is the burden of the plaintive songs of all these sweet albino-poets. 'I shall die and be forgotten, and the world will go on just as if I had never been;—and yet how I have loved! how I have longed! how I have aspired!' And so singing, their eyes grow brighter and brighter, and their features thinner and thinner, until at last the veil of flesh is threadbare, and, still singing, they drop it and pass onward."

Let us relieve this strain of talk by bits of lighter remark.

Mathematicians.—"What a satire, by the way, is Babbage's calculating machine on the mere mathematician! A Frankenstein-monster, a thing without brains and without heart, too stupid to make a blunder; that turns out formule like a corn-sheller, and never grows any wiser or better, though it grind a thousand bushels of them! I have an immense respect for a man of talents plus 'the mathematics.' But the calculating power alone should seem to be the least of human qualities, and to have the smallest amount of reason in it; since a machine can be made to do the work of three or four calculators, and better than any one of them. Sometimes I have been troubled that I had not a deeper intuitive apprehension of the relations of numbers. But the triumph of the ciphering hand-organ has consoled me. I always fancy I can hear the wheels clicking in a calculator's brain. The power of dealing with numbers is a kind of 'detached lever' arrangement, which may be put into a mighty poor watch. I suppose it is about as common as the power of moving the ears voluntarily, which is a moderately rare endowment."

The Value of Conceit.—"Little localised powers, and little narrow streaks of specialised knowledge, are things men are very apt to be conceited about. Nature is very wise; but for this encouraging principle how many small talents and little accomplishments would be neglected! Talk about conceit as much as you like, it is to human character what salt is to the ocean; it keeps it sweet and renders it endurable. Say rather it is like the natural unguent of the sea-fowl's plumage, which enables him to shed the rain that falls on him and the wave in which he dips. When one has had all his conceit taken out of him, when he has lost all his illusions, his feathers will soon soak through, and he will fly no more. . . . I say that conceit is just as natural a thing to human minds as a centre is to a circle. But little-minded people's thoughts move in such small circles that five minutes' conversation gives you an arc long enough to determine their whole curve. An arc in the movement of a large intellect does not differ sensibly from a straight line?"

Punning.—"Let me lay down the law upon the subject. Life and language are alike sacred. Homicide and verbicide—that is, violent treatment of a word with fatal results to its meaning, which is its life—are alike forbidden. Manslaughter, which is the meaning of the one, is the same as man's laughter, which is the end of the other. A pun is *prima facie* an insult to the person you are talking with. It implies utter indifference to or sublime contempt for his remarks, no matter how serious. I speak of total depravity, and one says all that is written on the subject is deep raving. I have committed my self-respect by talking with such a person. I should like to commit him, but cannot, because he is a nuisance. Or I speak of geological convulsions, and he asks me what was the cosine of Noah's ark; also, whether the deluge was not a deal huger than any modern inundation. A pun does not commonly justify a blow in return. But if a blow were given for such cause, and death ensued, the jury would be judges both

of the facts and of the pun, and might, if the latter were of an aggravated character, return a verdict of justifiable homicide."

The good things we have marked are too numerous to be extracted; and we must content ourselves with adding, that there is plenty of matter more amusing than our selections contain; and also, much that is deeper and more suggestive,—especially the ninth breakfast, where the recollections and experiences of childhood are the subject of the talk—"the little brown seeds of what may yet grow to be poems with leaves of azure and gold." But we must not part with a genuine poet without a song; and, as we find the humorous poems (the best of which is "The Wonderful One-Oss-shay") too long for us, let us hear a serious lyric—there are three so beautiful that it is hard to choose; but we will take—

THE CHAMBERED NAUTILUS.

"This is the ship of pearl, which, poets feign,
Sails the unshadow'd main—
The venturous bark that flings
On the sweet summer wind its purpled wings
In gulf enchanted, where the siren sings,
And coral reefs lie bare,
Where the cold sea-maids rise to sun their streaming hair.
Its webs of living gauze no more unfurl;
Wreck'd is the ship of pearl!
And every chamber'd cell,
Where its dim dreaming life was wont to dwell,
As the frail tenant shaped his growing shell,
Before thee lies reveal'd—
Its iris ceiling rent, its sunless crypt unseal'd!
Year after year beheld the silent toil
That spread his lustrous coil;
Still, as the spiral grew,
He left the past year's dwelling for the new,
Stole with soft step its shining archway through,
Built up its idle door,
Stretch'd in his last-found home, and knew the old no more.
Thanks for the heavenly message brought by thee,
Child of the wandering sea,
Cast from her lap, forlorn!
From thy dead lips a clearer note is born
Than ever Triton blew from wreath'd horn!
While on mine ear it rings,
Through the deep caves of thought I hear a voice that sings:—
Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul,
As the swift seasons roll!
Leave thy low-vaulted past!
Let each new temple, nobler than the last,
Shut thee from heaven with a dome more vast,
Till thou at length art free,
Leaving thine outgrown shell by life's unresting sea!"

Dr. Holmes says, "There are songs all written out in my soul, which I could read, if the flash might but pass through them,—but the fire must come down from heaven":—thus alluding to "the electrical experiment which consists in passing a flash through letters of gold leaf in a darkened room, whereupon some name or legend springs out of the darkness in characters of fire." Every one who reads either the fine verses or the occasional prose poetry of this volume, will quite believe him. And, in his lightest moods, though he "speaks trivially, it is not unwisely."

Christ and Other Masters: An Historical Inquiry into some of the chief Parallelisms and Contrasts between Christianity and the Religious Systems of the Ancient World. Part IV. Religions of Egypt and Medo-Persia. By CHARLES HARDWICK, M.A. Cambridge and London: Macmillan and Co.

This is, perhaps, the most important part of the work which Mr. Hardwick is gradually and successfully building-up into one of the noblest English books in the theological literature of modern times.

The importance of Ancient Egypt in the history of civilisation and religion, is now universally confessed; and the advantages of the modern inquirer, since the recovery of the hieroglyphic characters of the pictured monuments, and, still more, the deciphering of the text of Papyri, justify the hope that many a dark problem hitherto met with guesses will receive a satisfactory solution, and new light be poured on the earliest history and civilisation of mankind. But the tendency just now is rather to exaggerate the amount of real result gained by Egyptologists; and to attribute the character of certainty to many probabilities that are barely probable, and to dates that are purely speculative. Even writers of habitual cautiousness and good judgment have been carried away by the fascinating promises that Egyptian discovery makes: while the credulity of the Bible has been but a small thing in the way of other persons, infatuated enough to believe that they have found evidences of consolidated institutions, of the highest social life, and of perfected art, in Egypt, many millenniums before the date usually given to the Creation. Let it be granted that the Books of Moses furnish few materials for a satisfactory chronological system; and that such materials are not now in a condition to be employed with certainty: it is still by no means so probable as the principal Egyptian scholars seem to thin

that what has been clearly disproved of India and China—as to which the same extravagant demands for an awful antiquity were at one time made—should be found to be true of Egypt; and that the institutions and arts of that country should date back to a period that preceded by ages “the earliest glimpse of history in other regions of the world.” It is necessary that such historical assumptions should be subjected to searching criticism; and it is one of Mr. Hardwick’s first merits in the present part of his work, that, without entering into discussions foreign to his proper subject, he brings to the test the “random guesses” of the Egyptologists who assign such a remote date to the civilisation of the Valley of the Nile, and who have constructed “crude and arbitrary theories” respecting its immobility in all subsequent generations. He does not, indeed, underrate the discoveries made;—he does not discourage the enthusiasm and sanguine hope of investigators;—but he points out how little, after all that has been done, we have gained of actual knowledge of the inner life of Egypt; how clearly, and more clearly as our knowledge increases, the traces of successive modifications of Egyptian life and art appear in the monumental remains; how precarious is the basis of the chronological systems that have lately been set up with so much confidence; and how small is the assistance which any of the Egyptologist’s results render to the student of the religions of the old world. Bringing to the questions he treats both scholarship and capacity for the highest historical criticism, Mr. Hardwick will command the respect of the learned; and his labours as a theologian will yield fruit elsewhere than within the circle of the Church’s schools. While we thus commend Mr. Hardwick’s caution and discrimination in the use of the materials of Egyptian explorers and scholars, it scarcely needs to be added that he recognises their *main conclusions* as no longer open to dispute; and “takes those conclusions for a guide, wherever they are held in common by the learned in each special study.”

The characteristics of Egyptian heathenism are fully investigated by the author, in a chapter built on the study of all the great works, English and foreign, that have treated of Egypt’s history or monuments, and sustained by references that are of great value to the student. Then the alleged affinities between the Hebrew and Egyptian systems are examined; and it is attempted, with great candour and carefulness, to estimate the worth of the conflicting interpretations of those external resemblances, which undoubtedly mark the ritual codes of the Egyptian and the Hebrew. These “points of ritualism,” which owe so much of their resemblance to each other, to “the general nature of ancient symbolism,” without implying any “true internal sympathy;” and “the cardinal points of doctrine which must ever have determined the character of these systems,” and which supply chiefly the most striking contrasts between the Hebrew and Egyptian religious thought; are discriminated with remarkable delicacy of handling, and exhibited in a manner the most luminous and powerful. If, on the surface, these two systems have circumcision, cherubim, holy and most holy places, and a scape-goat, besides other resemblances; beneath that surface lie thoughts and tendencies, than which none can be more directly or absolutely opposed. The popular polytheism of Egypt—a mere deification of the energies of nature, and one of the least spiritual of the old polytheisms, contrasts unmistakably and strongly with the profoundly spiritual and ethical monotheism of the Jew;—and the moral sensibility of the Hebrew with the moral dulness of the Egyptian. The Egyptian doctrine of a future life, distinctly as it was developed, and associated as it was with the ethical doctrine of a judgment, was destitute, notwithstanding, of sublime ideas of the unseen, and of lofty anticipations of the destination of the human spirit; and is shown to have been precisely the conception of futurity which our Lord “repudiated as proving ignorance of the Scriptures and of the power of God,” and to be far less exalted in character, less powerful for the purification of life, than the simple but vague hope, which the Hebrew, to whose elementary condition nothing more was permitted, built upon his confidence in his Covenant God.

We are sorry that we cannot take up the second division of this volume; in which the characteristics of Medo-Persian heathenism are examined, and their affinities to Hebrewism and Christianity estimated. Its matter—on Ormuzd-worship, on Magism, on theories of Zoroastrianism, and on the Zend-Avesta, now known to be no older, in its present form than the third century after Christ—might well detain us; but those who value our testimony to its worth must seek its interesting pages for themselves.

Such a volume claims more attention than we here bestow on it; but, rather than delay a notice of its appearance, at a time when books are crowding on us, and when the proceedings in

Parliament will necessarily narrow our space, we have preferred to introduce it at once to our readers with these brief and inadequate remarks.

A Grammar of the New Testament Diction: intended as an Introduction to the Critical Study of the Greek New Testament. By Dr. GEORGE BENEDICT WINER. Translated from the Sixth Enlarged and Original Edition of the Original, by EDWARD MASSON, M.A., formerly Professor in the University of Athens. Vol. I. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

It may be presumed that such of our readers as pursue Biblical studies, and to whom alone the appearance of this volume will be interesting, are acquainted with the character of Dr. Winer’s celebrated work. It first appeared in 1822; and its proposed object was, “to put some check on the unbridled license with which the diction of the New Testament was then handled in commentaries and critical dissertations; and to apply the results of an enlightened philology to the critical study of the Greek Scriptures.” Until that time, empiricism had reigned without restraint in this department of sacred learning;—the classical scholar refusing to regard the New Testament diction as a living idiom,—the professed Biblical scholar attributing to the New Testament writers every possible disregard of grammatical propriety and precision. Winer shattered to pieces, almost at a blow, the arbitrary methods of the critics of preceding schools; and made an epoch in New Testament criticism by the publication of the work which has now become so famous, and so universally extolled for its sound judgment and discretion, and its severe application of grammatical principles to the interpretation of the Bible.

Various improvements were introduced by the author into successive editions of the work; and its influence, as he is thoroughly entitled himself to say, has been “daily growing more and more apparent in the conclusions of expositors.” A translation of the fourth edition, made in America, greatly contributed to its English celebrity and usefulness. The sixth edition, completed by Dr. Winer while on the verge of total blindness, appeared in 1855; and makes some improvements in the arrangement of the matter, as well as treats every point with greater completeness. Every student will join with the venerable author in desiring that “these fresh improvements—the last the work will ever receive from him—may contribute to the diffusion of Biblical truth, so far as any work of the kind is able to effect such result;” and will rejoice to hear the protest, though regretting that it should be necessary, made by him in the following words:—“I have been always far from thinking the grammatical elucidation of the New Testament the only proper exposition of the Sacred Volume; and I have, in silence, allowed some to regard me as vehemently opposed to the system of what is called theological interpretation.”

Mr. Masson will, we think, be regarded as every way competent to the great task he has undertaken; and will meet with grateful acknowledgments from all who study and expound the Greek Scriptures, for having done more, in this translation, than could well otherwise be done, for laying a solid basis of sound interpretation. And the publishers, too, deserve warmest thanks for their addition to our literature of a book second to none in its importance to the criticism of the New Testament.

We hope Mr. Masson is about to open to us yet other stores of learning, that may be resorted to for elucidation of the sacred text. In a note of considerable importance, attached to Winer’s introduction, he almost gives us promise of novel and valuable aids; and at least, furnishes a hint that may give something of a new direction to the studies of earnest scholars. He says, “The sacred writers all possessed a full command of plain, colloquial Hellenism. . . . To educated Greeks of the present day, the plain, colloquial Hellenic, as employed by Paul and those with whom he conversed at Athens, is still a living language. A reference to the grammatical forms of popular living Greek would throw more light on the New Testament accidence than all the New Testament grammars hitherto published. . . . The existing language and modern literature of the Greeks might be turned to immense account in the cultivation of sacred Greek philology in general, and in the department of New Testament and Septuagint *Lexicography* in particular. The large and erudite work, for instance, of the accomplished Constantine Economidis on the Septuagint, is deeply interesting, and, in a literary point of view, of incalculable value. It supplies a rich store of materials for a *concise introduction to the critical study of the Septuagint*,—part of a manual already in progress.”

The Commentary Wholly Biblical. Parts 18 to 24. Also, in Three Vols. London: Bagster and Sons. This laborious work is now completed. We have given repeated expression to our opinion of its character and

adaptations to usefulness, during its progress; but we cannot let it now take its place with the books that we daily use and profit by, without again commending it to our readers. A collection of parallel passages, on every verse of Scripture, printed in full beneath the text itself, even if executed on a much smaller scale than this, would be a great boon to the biblical reader: but when an extensive collection like this is made, so as to illuminate historical passages by acts that give illustration,—or carry forward the narration,—so as to trace individual biographies to their full extent,—so as to unfold principles from events, and to employ events to illustrate principles,—so as to exhibit all the analogies and contrasts of the Sacred Word, and its reiterations in various forms of the same eternal truths and spiritual facts,—then the service rendered to the students, and especially to the minister of the Word, is such as to claim gratitude and the highest encouragements and rewards. Of such a character is this book,—and, though it might have had a better and more descriptive title, now that it is all before us, we are able to speak with entire confidence and with unmixed approbation of its execution.

There are added to the text itself the following aids to biblical study; and so far as we have read or consulted either of them, each seems to be as full of information, and as perfect in its kind, as the plan and extent of the work permitted:—An Outline of the Geography and History of the Nations mentioned in Scripture: The Histories of the Kingdoms of Judah, newly arranged and illustrated: A Chronological View of the whole Scriptures: including a complete Harmony of the Gospel History: An Index of Scripture Subjects, Doctrines, &c., illustrated with passages quoted at full length: The Proper Names of Persons, alphabetically arranged, their meanings explained, and the principal illustrative passages cited: A Complete Geographical Index: A Classified Conspectus of the Names, Titles, and Characters of our Lord Jesus Christ: A Tabular View of the Journey of the Children of Israel to the Promised Land: Tables of Weights, Measures, &c. We need scarcely add, that the extensive series of illustrative maps represents the latest results of geographical investigation, and is of extreme beauty of appearance. We anticipate that the work, notwithstanding that it is necessarily somewhat costly, will become the favorite copy of the English Scriptures for the minister’s study.

Sabbath Morning Readings on the Old Testament. By Rev. Dr. CUMMING. First and Second Books of Samuel.

Sabbath Evening Readings on the New Testament. By Rev. Dr. CUMMING. Galatians, Ephesians, and Philippians.

London: A. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

THESE volumes appear to us to be, on the whole, of a higher character than some of the earlier of Dr. Cumming’s works,—more sober in interpretation, more considerate and judicious in the use of illustrations, and more manly in the tone of the practical remarks. The volume on Samuel contains a fair exposition of the text; and an application of its history to modern life and passing events, that is interesting and often really powerful. The readings on three of St. Paul’s epistles, are founded on the study of a few good books. Copious quotations are made from Dr. Hodge—chiefly in supplementary notes,—and “from the rare works” of “Ferguson,” who furnishes a goodly part of each “reading” or discourse. We presume this Ferguson is “Ferguson of Kilwinning;” but we know his writings only by name. Notwithstanding considerable freshness in Dr. Cumming’s use of these doctrinal epistles, we have felt, in the course of a careful examination of his pages on Ephesians, that the thought of the apostle is not bottomed, that the internal connexion is not observed, and that the auditor or reader is left without an adequate impression of the composition as a whole. It is, after all, as a treatment of its topics, and not as an exposition of the epistle in the deeper sense, that the book has its greatest merit.

We heartily wish that Dr. Cumming had ripened into sound judgment, and were no longer chargeable with being at all rash or fantastic; and then these books should have only such praise as we could give them. But he breaks into a vein of foolishness occasionally, which we must condemn. Take two specimens. The first is on the passage, that the Church be “holy and without blemish.” He says:—

“The word ‘blemish’ is translated from the Greek word *amōmos*. The Ephesians, as having been once heathens, would thoroughly appreciate the allusion. The god of laughter was called Momus; and the tendency of that god to laughter was so great, that the least thing was sure to excite it. The apostle says that this Church shall be presented so pure, so spotless, that if Momus were a reality instead of a mere idol, he would see nothing in it that he could make the subject of a smile, or laughter, or ridicule; ‘without spot and without blemish.’”

Talk of imbecility!—of solemn trifling!—it would be difficult to find a piece of more unmitigated nonsense than this. Does Dr. Cumming really think that Paul’s awfully glorious passage of Christ’s love to His church, was really intended by him to find its climax in an “allusion” to “the god of laughter?” Is not the suggestion a horrible one? But, who can write seriously of it? Verily, “if Momus were a reality instead of a mere idol,” with a “tendency to laughter so great” as is attributed to him, Dr. Cumming would be “sure to excite it.”

Again,—

“Job speaks of ‘the sweet influences of the Pleiades.’”

Many have wondered what was the influence of the Pleiades. Science, however, tells us that the stars and the sun, and the moon, and the earth, and their leading satellites, constitute one group, which revolves around a central sun, and that central sun is Aleyon, one of the Pleiades."

Had Dr. Cumming lived in the days of Job, and, on paying him a visit of condolence, presented him with one of his own volumes, Job would have found something of gratification for the feeling that broke out in that saying of his, which, the Ettrick Shepherd says, entitles him to be regarded as the first of all reviewers—"Oh, that mine enemy had written a book!" Not to dwell on the fact that the sublime question—"Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades?"—was not spoken by Job, but by "the Lord answering him out of the whirlwind,"—and not to make too much of the melancholy astronomical arrangement made by Dr. Cumming in his string of "the stars, the sun, the moon, the earth, and their (?) leading (?) satellites!"—the suggested explanation of the sacred words cruelly tears the heart out of a beautiful passage; and the use of it, as so explained, in proof of the scientific accuracy of the Bible, brings contempt on the cause it is meant to assist and to defend.

We have been compelled to make a protest against this weak and injurious treatment of Scripture; or our approbation of other features of this volume might have been misleading to our readers.

Eric, or Little by Little: A Tale of Roslyn School. By FREDERIC W. FARRAR, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. Edinburgh: Adam and Charles Black.

THIS story inevitably suggests comparison with *Tom Brown's School Days*; but, though we have pursued the comparison a long way for ourselves, we have only to say to our readers, that they would do themselves great injustice by neglecting the perusal of either the one or the other. If Tom Brown has the advantage in the freedom and skill with which its bright pictures are drawn, and in the robustness and geniality of feeling that pervades it; on the other hand, *Eric* is a more minute and complete picture of the internal life of a public school, and, perhaps, estimates that life more truly, and is written with a deeper and more spiritual religiousness. Tom Brown is the finer artistic production;—*Eric* the production of the intenser moral purpose.

Mr. Farrar says, that "in all humility he may claim for the story a higher merit than that of style—the merit of truthfulness: if the pictures painted are not always such as it would have been most pleasant to contemplate, they owe the darker shades of their colouring not to fancy, but to life: to the best of his belief, the things here dealt with are not theories, but realities, not imaginations, but facts." The tale is of perfectly absorbing interest,—with bright and cheerful scenes that delight one,—yet, on the whole, very painful. It is the story of a frank, spirited, clever boy, *Eric*, naturally capable of great and noble things, and possessed of "the genius to be loved," who, under the temptations of a great school, and the solicitations of bad companions, fell "little by little" from his simplicity and integrity, from his honourable ambitions and virtuous aims, into wickedness and disgrace; and who, though never in all his wanderings losing sight of goodness and truth, never ceasing to do them homage and to hate himself for his folly and sin, and, therefore, never ceasing to be the interesting "noble *Eric*," yet went far and widely astray; and who, after much sorrow and bitterness, after many fiery trials, died penitent and happy, broken down like a feeble reed, but discovering the presence of Him by whom the bruised reed is never utterly broken off, but tended with a gentle and loving care. It must be a hardened and vile nature that, after reading the book, should not feel the purifying power of the lesson contained in such an impressive story.

Mr. Farrar's pictures of Roslyn are full of nature and life. His discrimination of boy-character is deeply true. The school, in hours of study and in play-time,—the boarders' room and the dormitories,—the masters and the pupils,—the established routine, and the endless contrasts and varieties of school life,—and all the peculiarities of that little world by itself, a great school of boys, with its private code and venerated custom, its friendships and bullyings, its games and fights,—all come before us with such reality and suggestiveness, that we sympathise profoundly with Mr. Farrar, as if we actually stood with him in the Roslyn school-room, as, looking round, he says to us: "How many and what varied scenes has not this room beheld! had those dumb walls any feeling, what worlds of life and experience they would have acquired! If against each boy's name, as it was rudely cut on the oak panels, could have been also cut the fate that had befallen him, the good that he had there learnt, the evil that he there had suffered—what noble histories would the records unfold of honour and success, of baffled temptations and hard-won triumphs—what awful histories of hopes blighted and habits learned, of wasted talents and ruined lives!"

Mr. Farrar's noble book is one of the best presents that could be made to a boy in his 'teens; and we heartily believe will bear precious fruit in the life of many a boy-reader. But it is not merely, or even chiefly, a boy's book. Both parents and teachers may well place it, though "only a story," on the shelf with Arnold's and Thring's, and Bishop Cotton's *Sermons* to boys, as one of the books that will always quicken and help them in the duties and intercourse of home and school.

History of France, from the Earliest Times to 1848. By the Rev. JAMES WHITE, Author of "The Eighteen Christian Centuries." Edinburgh and London: W. Blackwood and Sons.

MR. WHITE, the author of those vividly and truthfully written little books, *The Landmarks of English and of Grecian History*,—and of at once the most picturesque and the most informing volume on Modern History, to which the general reader could be referred,—has now laid us under a new obligation, by the production of a book more universally and more immediately needed, than any other popular historical work that could be executed. The History of France has not been to any great extent a subject for English writers,—except in a few works that are placed by their extent and character beyond the time and taste of a majority of readers, or in abridgments and compilations of the dullest and most repulsive kind. Translated French works, certainly, we have had; but only a work from an English point of view could take such a hold on the mind of our countrymen as to be perfectly successful. And so it has happened, as we have said in noticing other attempts at supplying the want, that most people know less of French history than of any other, ancient or modern; and, if they wished to know something about it, it would not be easy to tell them what to read. Henceforth—and till something better is done, which will not be easy,—we shall answer inquiry by saying, Read Mr. White's book—and don't confound it with Dr. White's School History, which is the best thing of its kind, but not good reading out of school.

Mr. White has a peculiar gift for the distinct and brilliant representation of events on a small canvass. Such is the history written in this volume:—there is no confusion of the persons, no obscurity as to the movement and action, no want of interpretative scenery and surroundings. The building-up of the French nation is clearly traced; the epochs of its progress are distinctly marked; its character and place amongst European peoples truthfully exhibited;—the significance of the whole—the individual, and the general—being brought out with an expressiveness hardly to be looked for from such a series of rapid and brief historical sketches. The book is just as far removed from the character of an "epitome" or mere compilation, as is possible. The periods and facts of the history have been faithfully studied,—the inner arrangement of each period mastered, and the facts comprehended in themselves and in their relations: and the result is a thoroughly original work, which presents in each chapter, a well-digested, comprehensive statement, and a bright and powerful historical picture.

The Physiology of Common Life. No. 1. Hunger and Thirst. By G. H. LEWES. Edinburgh and London: W. Blackwood and Sons.

THIS work is similar in design and plan to the *Chemistry of Common Life*, by the late Professor Johnston. It proposes to treat the most scientific subject in such a manner as to make its principles intelligible to the thousands who cannot be expected to master its details,—to give "a clear and accurate conception of the chief physiological laws, sufficient for ordinary guidance and scientific culture,—illustrated by the most striking facts hitherto ascertained." The author imagines himself a lecturer, and that his audience contains the man of letters, the artisan, the medical student and the mother of a family. To be interesting and instructive to all is his aim, while "reproducing the latest discoveries of European investigators, and the results of original research." There is perhaps no one better fitted to do this so as to charm his audience, than Mr. Lewes—judging by his volume on *Comte* and his *Sea-side Studies*. It may be, however, that he will open up questions that are exceedingly debatable, when he comes to the "problems of nervous physiology concerned in Feeling and Thinking," and in "The Qualities we inherit from our Parents," and the "solemn subjects of Life and Death." We shall watch him closely,—as the physiologist indulging in trespass on the region of philosophy needs to be watched. Meanwhile, we strongly recommend to our readers this commencing part of Mr. Lewes's proposed work; in which the "beneficent and terrible" instincts of Hunger and Thirst are treated of, with all the knowledge, and all the power of conveying knowledge clearly to the mind, that could well be desired. When a few parts of the work are before us, we shall notice it more fully.

Cleanings.

Mr. Dickens, it is said, is at work writing a book, not to be published, but to be read by the author.

A boy of sixteen, Nathan Willis by name, was killed at Liverpool, on Sunday, by a blow on the head with a potato thrown by a playmate.

The *Espresso* announces within a few days the second volume of Carlo Farini's "History of Italy." It is said to contain very important documents.

At the meeting of the Liverpool Town Council, on Wednesday, it was agreed to lay a rate of a penny in the pound, in aid of the free public library and museum.

Another volume of M. Guizot's "Memoirs" is to appear in a day or two; and on the same day an English version of it will be brought out at London.

The Adelaide Corporation (Australia) have passed a by-law prohibiting smoking in the open air during

the summer months of the year, on account of the danger of fire which results from the practice.

It is stated that in Bantry Bay, where, sixty years since, a French fleet was dispersed, a squadron, consisting of the Royal Albert, 121 guns, Orion, 91, Renown, 91, Victor Emmanuel, 91, Brunswick, 80, Raccoon, 22, and a steam gunboat, is now stationed, with orders, it is said, to remain for a month.

It is stated that Alfred Tennyson is busy with the last of the four poems which will be included in the volume which may be looked for from his hand about March. They will include the history of Merlin's bewitchment by the blandishments of Nemes, the type of wicked womanhood; of the loves of the faithful Eild, example of perfect loving truth in woman; of the fair maiden of Antioch, who hopelessly loved Lancelot to the death; and the repentance of Guinever, of Glastonbury.

The honourable member for Finabury was a witness in the Court of Queen's Bench on the 11th instant:—

Mr. T. S. Duncombe, M.P.: There was very little conversation between me and Lord Wilton before we got to Colonel Dickson's. I can tell you what we talked about—racing (laughter)—homoeopathy. (Laughter.) I did not mention the Reform Bill. (Laughter.) Lord Wilton was inclined to recommend me homoeopathy. (Laughter.)

The Attorney-General: I hope you have found it beneficial: you are looking better. (Laughter.)

Mr. Duncombe: Lord Wilton said he applied homoeopathy to his dogs and horses. (Laughter.)

THE LATE MR. PRESCOTT.—A Boston correspondent writes:—"Precisely a week before Mr. Prescott's death, I had seen and conversed with him in his study at Boston, where he sat surrounded by the material for his great 'History of Philip II.' and enjoying apparently excellent health. His handsome features presented no trace of the paralytic attack under which he had suffered about a year before, and the vivacity of his conversation was no less distinguished than in former years. On Friday, the 28th, however, at a little after noon, Mr. Prescott, who had entered his bath, was heard to groan by his secretary. The latter immediately despatched a servant in quest of a physician, and with the help of some of the domestics broke open the door. The historian was found insensible, and although remedies were on the spot, and they were administered with the utmost promptness, they were of no avail, and death supervened about half-past two o'clock. His magnificent, and indeed unequalled, library is bequeathed, I understand, to Harvard University, at Cambridge, Massachusetts, of which institution he was a graduate."

BIRTH.—Feb. 13, at Cuckfield, Sussex, the wife of Mr. Daniel Pratt, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.—WILLIAMS-BEETHAM.—Oct. 20, at the church of St. James, Hutt Valley, New Zealand, by the Rev. T. Biddulph Hutton, assisted by the Rev. H. Woodford St. Hill, Thomas Goldham, fourth son of the Ven. Archbishop Williams, of the Bay of Islands, to Anne Palmer, eldest daughter of W. Beetham, Esq., of the Hutt, and late of Frimley Hill, Surrey, and 17, Golden-square, London.

STEPHENSON-DICK.—Nov. 17, at Strathalbyn, South Australia, by Rev. J. Gordon, minister of the Free Presbyterian Church, Mount Barker, Mr. W. D. Stephenson, late of Leicester, to Elizabeth Mason, eldest daughter of Mr. J. Dick, of Strathalbyn, and late of Scotland.

EDKINS-STOBBS.—Feb. 7, at Stromness, Orkney, the Rev. Joseph Edkins, B.A., of Shanghai, to Jane Rowbotham, second daughter of Rev. W. Stobbs, of the above place.

WHITELOCK-BUMFITT.—Feb. 8, at Ebenezer Chapel, York, by the Rev. J. Rumfitt, brother of the bride, William, son of Mr. J. Whitlock, ship smith, East Hartlepool, to Eleanor, third daughter of Mr. William Bumfitt, of Colliergate, York.

GRIFFIN-WILKES.—Feb. 15, at the New Congregational Church, Bedford, Staffordshire, by the Rev. Robert Simpson, pastor, Mr. Thomas Griffin, of High-street, Dudley, to Hannah, third daughter of Stephen Wilkes, Esq., of Furlong House, Bedford.

BENTLEY-BOLLAND.—Feb. 16, at Bethel Chapel, Brighouse, by the Rev. J. Livingstone, Mr. John Bentley, woollen manufacturer, Rastrick, to Miss Cecily Bolland, of Brighouse.

POWELL-PEARCE.—Feb. 17, at Eccles Church, by the Rev. Hugh Stowell, M.A., George Holt Powell, Esq., of Lower Clapton, to Mary Reid, daughter of Matthew Pearce, Esq., of Sudley-terrace, Pendleton, Manchester.

DEATHS.

LEE.—Nov. 30, 1858, on board the Princess Charlotte steamer, between Hong Kong and Singapore, on the voyage from Hong Kong to England, Thomas Mason Lee, M.D., 47th Bengal Native Infantry, second son of the Very Rev. John Lee, D.D., Principal of the University of Edinburgh.

STANLEY.—Jan. 20, at Peterchurch, Herefordshire, the Rev. W. Stanley, having been a minister of the Baptist Church in that village twenty-five years.

FOULKES.—Feb. 2, at Denbigh, Mary, the wife of Mr. Robert Foulkes, draper; a member of the Baptist Church twenty-two years, aged sixty-two years.

GOSBELL.—Feb. 3, at his residence, Grove-street, South Hackney, Ebenezer Gosbell, Esq., in the fifty-seventh year of his age.

READ.—Feb. 7, at Dorset-street, Portman-square, Ada Maria, the much beloved and only daughter of Mr. W. Read, in the sixth year of her age.

WOODHEAD.—Feb. 9, Mr. Joseph Woodhead, of Spencer-place, Leeds, aged seventy-one years.

SKINNER.—Feb. 12, at Bruton, the Rev. William Skinner, more than thirty years the pastor of the Congregational Church in that town, in his fifty-seventh year.

JOHNS.—Feb. 13, Josiah Bowen, only son of the Rev. Richard Johns, Baptist minister, Llanwenarth, Monmouthshire, aged sixteen months.

SHOWELL.—Feb. 13, William Henry, eldest son of John Whitehouse Showell, of Edgbaston, Birmingham, aged twenty-five years.

DUFF.—Feb. 13, in London, the Hon. Lady Duff, widow of General the Hon. Sir Alexander Duff, and mother of the Earl of Fife.

COWAN.—Feb. 13, at Edinburgh, Alexander Cowan, Esq., head of the well-known firm of Cowan and Co., paper makers, and father of Mr. C. Cowan, M.P. for Edinburgh.

LAURENCE.—Feb. 13, at East Keswick, Mr. George Laurence, formerly a tutor at Heath Grammar School, Halifax, and at the Independent College, Idia, near Bradford, and during forty-five years principal of Clitheroe House Academy, East Keswick, near Wetherby, aged seventy years.

WOODHOUSE.—Feb. 13, at his residence, Birkin-terrace, Nottingham, the Rev. Simeon Woodhouse, aged seventy-one years. Deceased early rose to a distinguished position in the Wesleyan ministry. He sustained several offices of honourable trust in the connexion, was one of its guardian representatives, and was twice chosen to the presidency of the Conference.

SIMCOE.—Feb. 14, at Harpenden-common, near St. Albans, Eliza Beal, youngest child of Frank and Ellen Simcoe, aged three years and three months.

JOHNSON.—Feb. 15, at her father's residence, Elmfield, near Leicester, Julia Christians, the beloved wife of Thomas Fielding Johnson, of Southfields, Leicester, and third daughter of Samuel Stone, Esq., aged twenty-two years.

DELAWARE.—Feb. 17, at Portman-square, Lady Delaware, daughter of the Earl of Kinnoull, aged thirty-one years.

MAULE.—Feb. 17, at Maulden, Forfarshire, the Hon. William Maule, of Fearn, aged forty-nine years.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—A highly-respectable lady having been afflicted for more than ten years with consumptive symptoms, nervousness, indigestion, and with other internal disorders of a very serious nature, of which she could get no relief, has become restored to health by simple means. She will inform any sufferer of the means by which she became restored, either on personal application, or on receipt of a directed envelope.—Address, Mrs. George Morrison, No. 11, Walpole-street, Chelsea, S.W.

DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE.—The most eminent medical authorities coincide in extolling this remedy as far more effectual than any in the cure of consumption, coughs, asthma, bronchitis, neuralgia, diphtheria, rheumatism, &c.; "relief instantaneous," perfectly safe in administration, and no injurious after-effects. Sole manufacturer, J. T. Davenport, Pharmacist to H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, 38, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London. May be had of all respectable Chemists. Sold in bottles 2s. 6d. and 4s. 6d. Sent carriage free on receipt of Stamps or Post Office Order. Medical reports forwarded on application. None genuine without the words, "Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne," engraved on the stamp. This is well worth the attention of the afflicted.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—Skin diseases are prevalent everywhere, and everywhere is it known that Holloway's matchless Ointment is a specific remedy. The demand for it is extraordinary. When this Ointment is applied to the diseased parts the effect is wonderful. It is more like that of magic than of medicine; but the relieved patient need not let his astonishment and delight be dashed with fear or doubt as to the ultimate result of so sudden an action on the system, for this famous Ointment is as innocent and benign as it is powerful. It does not throw the disease inwards, but insinuates itself through the pores of the skin to the original cause of the evil, and effects a thorough cure.

THE GREAT INJURY INFLICTED ON MANY INVALIDS BY DRUGS increases the interest the public take in Du Barry's Revalenta Arabica Food, which cures without medicine indigestion (dyspepsia), flatulency, constipation, nervous, bilious, and liver complaints, cough, asthma, consumption and debility. We quote a few out of many thousands of cures by this delicious Food:—Cure No. 180.—"Twenty-five years' nervousness, constipation, indigestion, and debility, from which I have suffered great misery, and which no medicine could remove or relieve, have been effectually cured by Du Barry's Food in a very short time. W. B. Reeves, 181, Fleet-street, London."—Cure 4,203.—"Eight years' dyspepsia, nervousness, debility, with cramps, spasms, and nausea, for which my servant had consulted the advice of many, have been effectually cured by Du Barry's health restoring Food. I shall be happy to answer any inquiries. Rev. John W. Flavell, Riddington Rectory, Norfolk."—From the Venerable Archdeacon of Ross. No. 32,830. "Three years' excessive nervousness, with pains in my neck and left arm, and general debility, which rendered my life very miserable, has been radically removed by Du Barry's health restoring Food. Alex. Stuart, Archdeacon of Ross, Skibbereen."

Supported by testimonials from the celebrated Professors of Chemistry, Dr. Andrew Ure, Dr. Shorland, Dr. Harvey, Dr. Campbell, Dr. Gattiker, Dr. Wurzer, Dr. Ingram, Lord Stuart de Decies, Major General Thomas King, and many other respectable persons, whose health has been restored by it, after all other means of cure had failed. Suitably packed with full instructions. In canisters, 1lb., 2s. 6d.; 2lb., 4s. 6d.; 5lb., 11s.; 12lb., 22s. The 12lb. canisters are sent carriage free, on receipt of Post-office order. Barry Du Barry and Co., 77, Regent-street, London, and through all Chemists and Grocers in town and country. Important caution against the fearful dangers of spurious imitations:—The Vice-Chancellor Sir William Page Wood granted an injunction on the 10th March, 1854, against Alfred Hooper Nevill, for imitating "Du Barry's Revalenta Arabica Food."

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

The Money Market is again paralysed by war rumours. For several days the funds have been declining. Business is almost suspended. On Monday Consols fell $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and in nearly every other department of the Stock Exchange decided depression prevailed. This morning the quotations showed no symptoms of improvement, and the small amount of speculative dealing reported indicated an unfavourable feeling with regard to the progress of affairs on the Continent. But the market closed firmer, having recovered $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

The supply of money is still far in excess of the demand. First-class bills are discounted at 2 to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and in exceptional instances even a fraction lower. The business at the Bank is consequently scanty.

In the Foreign Market the principal feature is the increased depression of Austrian Scrip, which is $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ discount.

The transactions in the Railway Share Market have been very limited, and prices generally have further declined.

Failures continue to take place in various parts of France. The most recent is that of Messrs. Bodin, Lichtenstein, and Co., of Marseilles.

It is stated that the question of raising a loan for the reconstruction of the navy, for fortifications, and for harbours of refuge, has for some time engaged the serious consideration of the British Cabinet. A total of several millions sterling is talked of as likely to be asked, in the event of Ministers mastering sufficient courage to submit the proposal to the Parliamentary ordeal. For this harbour of refuge a maximum sum of two millions is spoken of.

The general business of the Port of London during the past week has been very inactive, and, compared with last week, there has been a considerable decrease. The number of vessels announced inwards at the Custom House as having arrived from foreign ports amounted to 124. There were 6 from Ireland and 148 colliers. The entries outwards amounted to 112, and those cleared were 89, besides 15 in ballast. The departures for the Australian colonies have been 8 vessels—viz.:—2 to Sydney of 1,389 tons, 2 to Port Phillip of 2,878 tons, 1 to Adelaide of 400 tons, 1 to Hobart Town of 571 tons, and 2 to New Zealand of 578 tons; making a total of 5,816 tons.

The Board of Trade returns for the month of December last, and for last year, are issued. They show a complete recovery of trade from the calamity of 1857. Our exports of British produce and manufacture, which in 1856 amounted to 115,826,948 $\frac{1}{2}$, were in 1858 nearly a million in excess of that sum; but the average of the whole year does not come up quite to that of the early part of 1857. The exports in December last amounted to 10,058,769 $\frac{1}{2}$; in the corresponding month of 1857 they were only 7,148,041 $\frac{1}{2}$. The value of the principal articles imported in 1858 was 115,218,811 $\frac{1}{2}$, being nearly twenty millions under that of 1857, and seven millions and a half less than in 1856.

The weekly reviews from the manufacturing districts show that although business continues generally good, less disposition exists to extend operations. The war question has undoubtedly affected the export trade, but that identified with home consumption has not been in the least checked; and at Leeds and Bradford rather higher prices have been established for some descriptions of goods. From Huddersfield the accounts state that the home and foreign branches are both active, while in Sheffield and Wolverhampton it seems that business is gradually improving. It is, therefore, distinctly evident that the late occurrences on the Continent have, at least, greatly repressed, if they have not permanently arrested, the recovery which would have taken place in the operations of the spring, and which would have stimulated that commercial activity looked for at the commencement of the present year. The reports from the Irish towns are not altogether satisfactory, business having been characterized by increased languor.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Cent. Consols	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$
Consols for Account	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per Cent. Red.	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$
New 3 per Cent.	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$
Annuitants	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Stock	—	219	—	—	219	218
Bank Stock	—	—	229	—	229	230
Eschequer-bills	—	34 pm	39 pm	36 pm	35 pm	35
India Bonds	—	19 pm	—	—	15 pm	—
Long Annuitants	—	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th of Vic., cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, Feb. 16, 1880.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued	£33,539,330
Government Debt	£11,015,100
Other Securities	3,450,900
Gold Bullion	19,064,330
Silver Bullion	—
	£33,539,330

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital	£14,533,000
Reserve	3,359,321
Public Deposits	7,020,255
Other Deposits	14,533,895
Seven Day and other	—
Bills	799,948
	£40,871,422

Feb. 17, 1880. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, February 18, 1880.

BANKRUPTS.	
LOKESTAFF, R. H., Brewer-street, Soham-town, draper, Feb. 25, April 1.	
PURSELL, J., Cornhill, and South-place, Herne-hill, confectioner, March 3, April 1.	
HEWITT, E., late of Chatham, cornfactor, March 2, April 4.	
TAYLOR, T. C., Conduit-street, Hanover-square, house decorator, March 1 and 29.	
POLAK, B., Broad-street-buildings, foreign importer, March 1 and 29.	
NEWTON, W. H., Stratford, builder, February 26, March 24.	
BOULD, W., Wolverhampton, bootmaker, March 3 and 24.	
WILLIAMS, W., Newport, Monmouthshire, grocer, March 1 and 29.	
DAWSON, S., Wakefield, worsted manufacturer, March 3 and 25.	
SCOTT, J., Thackley, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer, March 3 and 29.	
LANSDALE, J., Brompton, Yorkshire, innkeeper, March 3, April 4.	
VICKERS, J. G., Liverpool, licensed victualler, March 3 and 24.	

Tuesday, February 22, 1880.

BANKRUPTS.	
MILTON, H. M., Walworth-road, cab proprietor, March 1 and 31.	
FOWLER, W., New Cross, Kent, builder, March 8, April 5.	
BYRON, J., Birmingham, hoiser, March 10 and 31.	
BENNETT, J., West Bromwich, ironmaster, March 7, April 11.	
RIDLER, G., Butte-street, Cardiff, provision dealer, March 6, April 5.	
SIMSTER, J. E., Cardiff, grocer, March 7, April 4.	
HARTWELL, T. M., Manchester, stretcher, finisher, and calenderer, March 7 and 29.	
GLENNIE, T., Harley-street, Cavendish-square, boarding-house-keeper, March 3, April 7.	
SCHOFIELD, J., and HORRILL, L., Blue Pitts, Rochdale, grocer manufacturers, March 10 and 31.	
WHEELER, G., Curry Rivel, Somersetshire, draper, March 8 and 30.	
MANLEY, J., Exwick, near Exeter, miller, March 10, April 13.	

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Feb. 21.

Our last week's supply of British wheat consisted of 2,565 quarters coastwise, and 2,884 quarters by rail. Of foreign grain we received 1,739 quarters wheat from France, and 370 quarters Egypt. Barley, 495 quarters Hamburg—400 quarters France—215 quarters Santander—Malta, 2,376 quarters—Odessa, 3,700 quarters. Scales Nova, 1,025 quarters oats—1,535 quarters Denmark—3,820 quarters Sweden—2,239 Groningen. Peas 577 quarters Odessa. Flour, 892 sacks France—1,320 sacks Santander. With a moderate supply of English wheat on offer this morning, the sale was slow, and last Monday's prices barely maintained, damp and out of conditioned samples very undesirable. Foreign wheat in good dry condition continued to be taken for consumption at last Monday's quotations. In flour little done, Norfolk offering at 27s per sack. Beans in cheaper. Peas without change. Barley met with buyers at Friday's prices, and fine malting samples scarce. The arrivals of oats were moderate, but the trade inactive, and without any quotable change in prices. Linseed and cakes much the same as last week. Tares in fair demand, but prices hardly maintained. Cloverseed steady sale, and quite as dear.

BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat	s. s.	Wheat	s. s.
Essex and Kent, Red 42 to 44	48 50	Dantzic	50 to 54
Ditto White	48 50	Konigsberg, Red	44 50
Lincoln, Norfolk, and	—	Pomeranian, Red	46 50
Yorkshire Red	—	Rosstock	46 50
Scotch	42 44	Danish and Holstein	42 46
Rye	32 34	East Friesland	42 44
Barley, malting	36 42	Petersburg	32 43
Distilling	26 28	Riga and Archangel	—
Malt (pale)	60 64	Polish Odessa	38 40
Beans, mazagan	36 46	Marianopol	46 48
Ticks	—	Taganrog	—
Harrow	—	Egyptian	30 32
Pigeon	—	American (U.S.)	40 46
Peas, White	40 42	Barley, Pomeranian	28 33
Grey	40 41	Konigsberg	—
Maple	40 41	Danish	26 28
Boilers	—	East Friesland	22 23
Tares (English new)	70 80	Egyptian	30 31
Foreign	70 85	Odessa	22 23
Oats (English new)	21 24	Beans—	
Flour, town made, per	—	Horse	36 46
Sack of 280 lbs	38 40	Pigeon	40 42
Linseed, English	—	Egyptian	32 34
Baltic	50 52	Peas, White	38 40
Black Sea	50 52	Oats—	
Hempseed	42 44	Dutch	18 25
Canaryseed	64 66	Jahde	18 24
Cloverseed, per cwt. of	—	Danish	17 22
112 lbs. English	70 80	Danish, Yellow feed	21 24
German	65 90	Swedish	22 24
French	54 68	Petersburg	20 25
American	54 64	Flour, per bar. of 196 lbs.	—
Linseed Cakes, 134 lbs to 144	—	New York	20 25
Rape Cakes, 64 lbs to 70 lbs per ton	—	Spanish, per sack	—
Rapeseed, 34 lbs to 35 lbs per last	—	Carawayseed, per cwt.	30 35

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread, in the metropolis, are from 6d to 7d; household loaf, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 6d.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, LONDON, Monday, Feb. 21.

The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 2,645 head. The supply of foreign stock here to-day was moderate, and sales progressed steadily, at very full prices. About 60 oxen were on offer from Spain. From our own grazing districts the receipts of beasts fresh up this morning, were limited in number for the time of year, but in full average condition. For all kinds we had a steady demand, at fully last week's quotations. A very few superior Scots sold at 5s, but the general top figure for beef was 4s 10d per lb. The arrival of beasts from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire amounted to 2,200 Scots, shorthorns, and crosses; from other parts of England, 450 of various breeds; and, from Scotland, 316 Scots and crosses. The show of sheep was rather limited, and the demands for all breeds ruled steady, at, in some instances, a further slight improvement in value. The best Downs sold currently at 5s 4d, and a few very superior pens produced even more money. The difference in the value of shorn sheep and those in the wool was about 8d per lb. The few calves in the market were readily disposed of at fully last week's currency. There was only a limited inquiry for pigs at late rates.

Per Sibs. to sink the Offal.			
a. d. s. d.	a. d. s. d.	a. d. s. d.	a. d. s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3 4 to 5 6	Fr. coarse woolled	4 8 to 5 0
Second quality	3 8 to 4 2	Prime Southdown	5 2 to 5 4
Prime large oxen	4 4 to 4 6	Lge. coarse calves	4 0 to 4 10
Prime Scots, &c.	4 8 to 4 10	Prime small	5 0 to 5 6
Coarse inf. sheep	3 8 to 4 0	Large hogs	3 0 to 3 6
Second quality	4 2 to 4 6	Neat sm. porkers	3 8 to 4 2

Lambs 0s 0d to 0s 0d.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Feb. 21.

The supplies of each kind of meat continue seasonably extensive. Prime beef and mutton sell readily at full quotations. Otherwise the demand is in a sluggish state, on former terms.

Per Sibs by the carcass.			
a. d. s. d.	a. d. s. d.	a. d. s. d.	a. d. s. d.
Inferior beef	3 0 to 3 4	Small pork	3 10 to 4 2
Middling ditto	3 6 to 3 8	Inf. mutton	3 2 to 3 6
Prime large do.	3 10 to 4 0	Middling ditto	3 8 to 4 2
Do. small do.	4 2 to 4 6	Prime ditto	4 4 to 4 6
Large pork	3 0 to 3 6	Veal	3 8 to 4 8

Lamb, 0s 0d to 0s 0d.

PRODUCE MARKET, MINING-LANE, Feb. 22.

TEA.—The market continues very firm, but owing to the public sales which commenced to-day, there has been little business done in the private market. Common congou is quoted 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb.

SUGAR.—Only a moderate quantity has been brought forward at public sale, and the market exhibits no activity. In the refined market prices have slightly receded.

COFFEE.—A moderate business has been done in Plantation Ceylon, and prices generally have been well supported. Other descriptions have been inactive, and exhibited little change in value.

RICE.—The market is flat, and the few dealings reported were at about former rates.

SALTETTER.—There have been very few inquiries, and little alteration can be reported in prices. No public sales have taken place.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Feb. 21.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 2,637 firkins butter, and 3,286 bales bacon; and, from foreign ports, 6,311 casks butter, and 115 bales bacon. In the Irish butter market there was but little to notice during the week, the continued mildness of the weather causing the dealers only to purchase according to their immediate demand. Best foreign brought 13s per cwt. The bacon market ruled flat, the dealers being supplied by their late purchases, and any sales effected were at a decline of fully 1s per cwt.

POTATOES, BOW CHAN AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Feb. 21.—Since Monday last the receipts of potatoes, coastwise and by railway, have been moderate. The imports have amounted to 150 tons from Dunkirk, 94 tons from Rouen, 5 sacks from Boulogne, and 44 tons from Harlingen. For most kinds the demand rules steady, and prices are supported:—York Regents, 80s to 10s; Lincolns, 75s to 90s; Essex and Kent, 70s to 90s; Scotch, 45s to 95s; foreign whites, 40s to 55s per ton.

COVENT GARDEN, Saturday, Feb. 19.—Pineapples and grapes continue to maintain last week's prices. To varieties of pears no addition has been made. The supply of apples is well kept up. Barcelona nuts 20s per bushel; Brazil, 18s 6d;

Spanish, 14s. do.; almonds, 24s.; walnuts, 14s. do. Spanish hazel nuts have arrived, and are in good order for planting. Chestnuts for the same purpose fetch from 8s. to 10s. per bushel; finest desert chestnuts range from 20s. to 24s. per bushel. Kent oaks are scarce; they realise 7s. per 100lbs. New oranges fetch 3s. 6d. to 10s. per 100. Among vegetables are some beautiful cutflowers, which are still brought from Cornwall by the crateful. Greens are plentiful; French beans scarce. French salad may be had; also forced rhubarb and sea-kale. Potato sales are heavy, except for best samples; Artichokes fetch from 4s. to 6s. per dozen. Cucumbers plentiful. Cut flowers chiefly consist of Orchids, Gardenias, Heliotropes, Geraniums, Violets, Mignonettes, Heaths, and Roses.

SEEDS. London, Monday, Feb. 21.—The demand has now become more general for seeds, and all qualities now meet an improved sale at full prices. The supply of English is not so good as it has been, and sellers are firm in their values. Fine American and French seeds are fully as dear. White seed, with more demand, must be noted 2s. to 4s. dearer. Trefoils remain without change. Spring tares continue scarce and high. Canaryseed without change.

HOPS. Monday, Feb. 21.—There is no alteration in our market, which remains firm at the following quotations:—Mid and East Kents, 70s. to 84s.; Weald of Kent, 54s. to 65s.; Sussex, 54s. to 60s. No foreign hops arrived in the port of London last week.

WOOL. Monday, Feb. 21.—Since our last report, the transactions in all kinds of English wool have been rather limited, owing to the near approach of the public sales of colonial. In prices, however, we have no change to notice. The supply of wool on offer is limited; and the inquiry for export purposes is very limited.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c. Saturday, Feb. 19.—We continue to have a slow sale for most kinds of flax, at previous quotations. Manila hemp is steady, at extreme rates. Petersburg clean is offering at 29 1/2 to 30 1/2; outshot, 29 1/2 to 29 5/8; and half-clean, 28 1/2 per ton. Jute and coir goods command very full prices.

TALLOW. Monday, Feb. 21.—Since our last report only a moderate business has been transacted in tallow, and prices have had a drooping tendency. To-day P.Y.C. on the spot is selling at 52s. 6d. per cwt. Rough fat, 2s. 10d. per 5lbs.

OILS. Monday, Feb. 21.—We have to report a slow sale for olive oil, and prices are a shade lower. Gallipoli is offered at 48s. Linseed moved off slowly, at 39s. 6d. to 39s. 9d. on the spot. Rape very little is doing. Cocoa-nut is firm. In common fish oils only a limited business is passing. Spirits of turpentine, 40s. 6d. to 41s. 6d. per cwt.

COALS. Monday, Feb. 21.—A general reduction in all coals sold to-day. Hottons, 17s. 6d.; Haswells, 17s. 6d.; Stewart's, 17s. 6d.; Caspov, 15s. 6d.; Belmont, 14s. 9d.; Thorncliffe, 15s.; Kelke, 17s.; Hartleys, 14s. 6d.; Wylam, 14s. 6d.; Wharfedale, 15s. 6d.; West Blaydon (Cannel), 21s.; Garnant stones, 24s. Fresh arrivals, 280; left from last week, 18.—Total, 307.

METALS. Saturday, Feb. 19.—The market for Scotch pig iron is very dull, and sales have been made as low as 51s. 3d. cash. Manufactured parcels move off steadily, at full quotations. Copper supports former terms, but the demand for it is by no means active. Lead is quite as dear as last week. Quicksilver is selling at 11d. to 12d. per lb. Tin is less active; but tin plates command very full prices. Other metals rule about stationary.

Advertisements.

WHEN YOU ASK FOR

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH,

SEE THAT YOU GET IT.

as inferior kinds are often substituted.

PRICHARD'S DANDELION, CAMOMILE, RHUBARB, AND GINGER PILLS.

This excellent Compound, skillfully adjusted, is an unfailing remedy for Indigestion, Constipation, Liver, Biliary, and all Stomach Complaints. Its action being mild and certain, cannot fail to restore health, and, by occasional use, prove the most valuable medicine ever brought before the public. Well adapted for parties going abroad. In bottles, 1s. 1/4d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s.

Prepared only by Mr. Prichard, Apothecary, 65, Charing-cross, London; and may be had of all medicine vendors. Sent free by post. N.B. Be sure to ask for Prichard's.

"A Real Blessing to Mothers."—British Medical Journal, Feb. 12, 1859.

PERSONS who cannot swallow Cod Liver Oil, should take **NEUBERY and SONS' COD LIVER OIL CAKES**, which are pleasant and do not nauseate. Each cake contains one teaspoonful of the finest oil, and is taken even by children without suspicion. They resemble gingerbread in appearance, and will supersede Cod Liver Oil from its portability and greater digestibility in this combination. Invalids travelling should not be without them, for even as an article of diet while travelling, they possess a large amount of both animal and vegetable nutrition, most sustaining and invigorating.—Prepared by F. NEUBERY and SONS, (Established A.D. 1746,) 45, St. Paul's Churchyard, London; and sold by Chemists, &c., in town and country. Price, 1/2 lb., 1s. 9d.; 1 lb., 2s.

CURE for TIC DOLOREUX, or PAIN in the TEETH, FACE, HEAD, &c., also SCIATICA and PAINS in the LIMBS.

BARLOW'S CELEBRATED POWDERS quickly remove every symptom of these painful affections. They contain nothing injurious, but are, in every respect, conducive to health. The ingredients are of the most innocent, though invigorating character, going alone to the cause of complaint.

They are sent, post paid, for 2s. 9d. in Letter Stamps, by the Sole Proprietor, **SAMUEL BARLOW**, Chemist, Darlington.

Sold wholesale by Barclay and Sons, 95, Farringdon-street, London.

References as to their efficacy:—Joseph Pease (late M.P.) Darlington; Mrs. Pryce Gwynne, St. Julian House, Tenby; Rev. K. C. Bayley, Copford Rectory, Colchester; the Hon. Mrs. F. Grimston, Wake's Colne, Halstead, and hundreds of the nobility, ministers, &c., whose bona fide testimonials may be had of S. Barlow.

No more Pills, nor any other Medicine, for Indigestion (Dyspepsia), habitual Constipation, Flatulency, Acidity, Palpitation of the Heart, Torpidity of the Liver, Biliary Headaches, Nervousness, Biliousness, General Debility, Diarrhoea, Cough, Asthma, Consumption, Dependancy, Spiten, &c.

Price 2d. in stamps, free by post, a popular Treatise, 64 pages: **THE NATURAL REGENERATOR of the DIGESTIVE ORGANS.**

Without Pills, Purgatives, or medicines of any kind, and without expense, by a simple, pleasant, and infallible means which saves fifty times its cost in other remedies; adapted to the general reader.

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for the HAIR, 90, GOSWELL-ROAD, and 148, HOLBORN BARS.

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FINE HEAD OF HAIR. the Beard, Whiskers, and Mustachios.—The successful results of the last half century have proved beyond question that GILLINGWATER'S QUININE POMADE possesses peculiarly nourishing powers in the growth, restoration, and improvement of the human hair, and when every other specific has failed. It prevents it from falling off or turning gray, strengthens weak hair, and makes it beautifully soft, curly, and glossy. In the growth of the beard, whiskers, eyebrows, and mustachios, it is unfailing in its stimulative operation. In bottles 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each.

GILLINGWATER'S HAIR DESTROYER, the most certain and elegant preparation for the removal of superfluous hair on the arms, neck, and face, so inimical to beauty. It is perfectly innocent, and is easy and pleasant in use. In boxes 3s. 6d. each.

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DO YOU WANT LUXURIANT HAIR, WHISKERS, &c.? If so, use Miss Coupelle's Crinutrin, which has for many years been noted all over the world for its almost miraculous properties, and is the only remedy for restoring the hair that can be fully depended upon. It is guaranteed to produce whiskers, mustachios, eyebrows, &c., in a few weeks, and will be found eminently successful in nourishing, curling, and beautifying the hair; checking greyness in all its stages, strengthening weak hair, preventing its falling off, and restoring it in baldness, from whatever cause. Upwards of one hundred physicians recommend it in the nursery for producing a fine healthy head of hair, and averting baldness in after years.

Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers in the world. Price 2s., or will be sent post free on receipt of twenty-four penny stamps, by Miss Coupelle, 69, Castle-street, Newman-street, Oxford-street, London. Family bottles, price 6s. each, containing the quantity of five small ones. At home daily, except Sundays, from Eleven till Five. "Five Minutes' Advice on the Hair," Whiskers, &c., with numerous testimonials, indisputable facts, which the sceptical are invited to read, and a list of hundreds of agents in England, Ireland, and Scotland, sent post free for two penny stamps.

HAIR DYE.—COUPELLE'S DYE is the only pure and efficient one extant; it changes the hair in three minutes to any required shade, from light auburn to a jet black, so beautifully natural as to defy detection, and will be found infinitely superior to the many discoloured dyes now advertised, which smell horribly, stain the skin, burn the hair, and leave an unnatural tinge. Price 3s. 6d. of all chemists and perfumers, or sent free by post on receipt of fifty-two penny post stamps, by Miss Coupelle, 69, Castle-street, Newman-street, London.

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INVALIDS who suffer from Lowness of Spirits, Want of Sleep, Loss of Appetite, and Bilious Attacks, will hail this medicine as a great blessing. It acts by purifying the blood and by restoring the stomach, liver, and bowels to their healthy state, and thus eradicates melancholy, weakness of limbs, &c. The smallest size box will be quite sufficient to convince any invalid of the extraordinary virtues of these pills. Price 1s. 1/4d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. a box. Agents—Barclay, 95, Farringdon-street, and Hannay, 63, Oxford-street. Any medicine vendor will procure them.

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HARPER TWELVETEES' INFALLIBLE and IRRESISTIBLE MICE and RAT KILLER, is the most delicious dainty ever prepared for Vermin!!! Mice cannot resist it!!! They will come from their holes, and follow it anywhere; Eat it greedily, and DIE on the spot!!! You may clear them away by the score every night and morning. A Sixpenny Packet will Kill One Hundred Mice and Fifty Rats.

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No. 2, Lower Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square.

(Removed from No. 61.)

BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS

PATENT.—Newly-invented and Patented application of chemically-prepared White and Gum-coloured India-rubber in the construction of Artificial Teeth, Gums, and Palates.

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All sharp edges are avoided; no springs, wires, or fastenings, are required; a greatly-increased freedom of action is supplied; a natural elasticity hitherto wholly unattainable; and a fit, perfected with the most unerring accuracy, is secured, while, from the softness and flexibility of the gums employed, the greatest support is given to the adjoining teeth when loose or rendered tender by the absorption of the gums.

The acids of the mouth exert no agency on the chemically-prepared India-rubber, and, as it is a non-conductor, fluids of any temperature may, with thorough comfort, be imbibed and retained in the mouth, all unpleasantness of smell and taste being at the same time wholly provided against by the peculiar nature of its preparation.

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TURKISH TREATMENT.—A Surgeon from the Crimea who was cured of fourteen years' deafness and most distressing noises in the head, is anxious to communicate the means of cure to others so afflicted; full instructions to effect a cure sent to any part of the world upon receipt of a stamped directed envelope—Surgeon Colston, M.R.C.S., and M.R.S.L., No. 7, Leicester-place, Leicester-square, London, W.C. Consulting hours Eleven till Four daily.

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tinues to give her useful and interesting delineations of character, from an examination of the handwriting, in a style peculiarly her own, and never before attempted in this country. All persons desirous of knowing themselves, or the true character of any friend in whom they may be interested, must send a specimen of their writing, stating the sex and age, and the fee of thirteen penny post stamps, to Miss Coupelle, 69, Castle-street, Oxford-street, London, and they will receive in a few days a full and minute detail of the talents, tastes, affections, virtues, failings, &c., of the writer, with many other things hitherto unsuspected. To prevent mistakes all applicants are requested to enclose an envelope directed to themselves. Miss Fletcher says, "You have described his character very accurately." I. Adams, Esq.: "Many thanks for your faithful portrait." W. Gibbs, Esq.: "My sister Fanny says it is quite correct." Miss Curtis: "I am most gratified with your faithful answers to my questions." All communications are confidential.

NO MORE PILLS NOR ANY OTHER MEDICINE.

Indigestion (dyspepsia), constipation, flatulency, phlegm, nervousness, biliousness, liver complaints, hysteria, neuralgia, sleeplessness, acidity, palpitation, heartburn, eruptions, impurities, irritability, low spirits, diarrhoea, hemorrhoids, headache, debility, dependancy, cramps, spasms, nausea, and sickness (during pregnancy or at sea), sinking, fits, cough, asthma, bronchitis, consumption, also Children's complaints effectually removed by

DU BARRY'S DELICIOUS HEALTH

RESTORING REVALENTA ARABICA FOOD. Which saves fifty times its cost in other remedies in biliousness, and is moreover the best food for infants and invalids generally, as it is the only Food which never turns acid on the weakest stomach, nor interferes with a good liberal diet, but imparts a healthy relish for lunch and dinner, and restores the faculty of digestion, and nervous and muscular energy to the most enfeebled.

We extract a few out of the many thousand expressions of gratitude from Invalids cured without medicine by Du Barry's delicious Revalenta Arabica Food.

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IMPORTANT CAUTION against the fearful dangers of spurious imitations:

The Vice-Chancellor Sir William Page Wood granted an Injunction on the 10th March, 1854, against Alfred Hooper Nevill for imitating "Du Barry's Revalenta Arabica Food."

Suitably packed for all climates, and with full instructions in canisters, at 1s. 1/4d.; 1lb., 2s. 9d.; 2lb., 4s. 6d.; 5lb., 11s.; 12lb., 22s.; Super refined quality, 10lb., 33s. The 10lb. and 12lb. canisters are forwarded carriage free, on receipt of post-office order. Barry du Barry and Co., 77, Regent-street, London; Fortnum, Mason, and Co., purveyors to Her Majesty, 182, Piccadilly; Abbia, 60, Greenchurch-street; 69 and 150, Oxford-street; 330 and 451, Strand; also at 49 and 60, Bishopsgate-street; and 4, Cheap-side; and through all Chemists and Grocers in town and country.

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A small useful plate chest, containing a set, guaranteed of first quality for finish and durability, as follows:—

	Fiddle or Old Pattern	Thread or Brunswick Pattern	King's Pattern	Military Pattern
12 Table Forks	1 18 0	2 8 0	3 0 0	3 10 0
12 Table Spoons	1 18 0	2 8 0	3 0 0	3 10 0
12 Dessert Forks	1 10 0	1 15 0	2 2 0	2 10 0
12 Dessert Spoons	1 10 0	1 15 0	2 2 0	2 10 0
12 Tea Spoons	0 18 0	1 4 0	1 10 0	1 18 0
6 Egg Spoons, gilt bowls	0 12 0	0 15 0	0 18 0	1 1 0
2 Sauce Ladles	0 7 0	0 8 0	0 10 0	0 15 0
1 Gravy Spoon	0 8 0	0 11 0	0 13 0	0 16 0
2 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls	0 4 0	0 5 0	0 6 0	0 7 0
1 Mustard Spoon, gilt bowl	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 3 0	0 3 0
1 Pair of Sugar Tongs	0 3 0	0 3 0	0 5 0	0 7 0
1 Pair of Fish Carvers	1 4 0	1 7 0	1 12 0	1 18 0
1 Butter Knife	0 3 0	0 5 0	0 7 0	0 8 0
1 Soup Ladle	0 13 0	0 17 0	1 0 0	1 1 0
1 Sugar Sifter	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 5 0	0 8 0
Total	11 14 0	14 11 0	17 14 0	21 4 0

Any article to be had singly at the same prices. An oak chest to contain the above, and a relative number of knives, &c., 2l. 15s. Tea and coffee sets, crust and liqueur frames, waiters, candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process.

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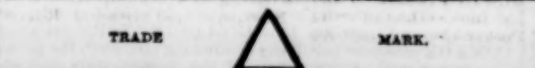
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VIRGINIAN GUM.—Have you seen the Virginian Gum? Have you tried the Virginian Gum? Nothing has ever been introduced into this country which has caused such a stir, and has effected so many surprising and wonderful cures as the Virginian Gum!!! It is working wonders everywhere:—the weak are strengthened!—the wounded are healed!—the lame walk, laying aside their sticks and crutches;—and thousands of living souls who have been restored from the brink of the grave, are everywhere gratefully sounding its praise! As a remedy for Rheumatism, Rheumatic Gout, Tic-doloureux, Toothache, Pains in the Back, Gravel, Piles, Asthmatic Cough, Hooping Cough, and even Consumption, it is superior to anything in the world!!! The names and residences of Hundreds of Persons can be given, who will testify to the surprising curative powers of the Virginian Gum, in cases of Burns, Scalds, Cuts, Wounds, Bruises, Sore Throats, Swellings, Abscesses, Boils, Corns, and Bunions, Whitlows, Sore Legs, Red Breasts, Cracked Hands, &c. As a Digestive, Soothing, and Healing Adhesive Plaster, it is better than any Plaster known by the Faculty; and as the Virginian Gum is not only the Easiest, the most Simple, as well as the Cheapest and most Certain mode of Cure, it must ever continue to be the World's Favourite Remedy. Go!!! Get Some!!! Get a Small Box, and try it for yourself!!! After the first trial you will never be without it in the house.—Sold Retail in Boxes at 1s. 1d. each by Druggists, Stationers, and Patent Medicine Vendors; and Wholesale at the Depot, 159, Goswell-street, London, and at the usual Wholesale Patent Medicine Houses.

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J. LIMMER and CO., Family Millers, deliver their Superior Flour, warranted free from adulteration, to all parts of London, carriage free, not less than one peck (14lbs.) at per bushel, (56lbs.) Whites, for pastry, 8s. 4d.; Households, recommended for Bread-baking, 7s. 8d.; Seconds, 7s.; Wheat Meal, for Brown Bread, 7s.; best Scotch Oatmeal, fine or coarse, 2s. 8d. (14lbs.); German Yeast.

Address, J. LIMMER and CO., West Mills, Bury St. Edmunds; or 1, Edward-terrace, Caledonian-road, Islington, N. Terms, cash.



PATENT CORN FLOUR,

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Sold by Grocers, Chemists, &c., at 8d. per 16oz. packet. Paisley, Manchester, Dublin, and 23, Ironmonger-lane, London.

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